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KENT ON SUNDAY

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REMEMBERING THE FEW

Wartime veterans join in salute to 70th anniversary of Battle of Britain

SEE INSIDE FOR FULL STORY

NOW TOP POLICE JOBS MAY BE CUT

New Kent Police chief faced with saving £23 million

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

SENIOR ranks may be slashed from the Kent Police hierarchy as new Chief Constable Ian Learmonth searches for £23 million of savings.

While staff and officer numbers were already expected to be reduced in an attempt to tackle the three-year deficit, Mr Learmonth is refusing to rule out removing some of the highest positions in the force as well.

Last week his former colleagues at Norfolk Constabulary announced they were cutting the number of superintendents and chief superintendents in the county by five, and Mr Learmonth told KOS Media he was considering something similar.

There are currently 24 Kent superintendents earning between £60,750-74,022 per year, and 14 chief superintendents on between £72,543-76,680. The lowest ranked PC earns less than £23,000 per year.

Mr Learmonth, who joined the force on Monday in his £150,000-a-year job, said: "It's certainly an area I want to look at, but it's not just about reducing superintendent numbers, it's about the span of command in general and the need for a structure that's efficient and effective.

"We're going to have to look at the resources we've got, how we use them and if we can do things in a different way – adjusting senior officer numbers is certainly something we would need to consider.

"But particularly at times like this the organisation needs good effective leadership, so I wouldn't want to streamline too much and risk causing more damage than good."

Mr Learmonth, 52, from Ellingham in Norfolk, was Deputy Chief Constable of Norfolk Constabulary between August, 2007, and June this year. He beat three other candidates to earn the right to replace former chief Michael Fuller, who left Kent in March to take up a new position as chief inspector of the Crown Prosecution Service.

But Mr Learmonth joins the force at a time of great uncertainty due to a planned shake-up of the policing system that would result in police authorities – which chief constables are currently accountable to – being replaced by 'commissioners' elected by the public.

Kent Police Authority chairwoman Ann Barnes, who has previously voiced fears about such individuals being politically motivated, did not attend Mr Learmonth's first press conference on Wednesday as she was busy discussing the controversial plans with Home Secretary Theresa May.

Mr Learmonth said: "There is a degree of nervousness about the proposals, but that's mostly because of the lack of detail we have received.

"From what I've read so far, the relationship between a directly-elected individual and chief constable would be very similar, if not exactly the same, as it currently is between chief constable and police authority. But the idea is that if the public wants to get rid of this individual then they can vote them out. It appears they're building that

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

Horses will be shot as refuge is faced with closure

SEE INSIDE FOR FULL STORY

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Carter's rallying cry as quango is felled

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT County Council leader Cllr Paul Carter has issued a rallying call aimed at forming a local body to drive forward regeneration and enterprise initiatives.

The new organisation would replace the South East England Development Agency (Seeda), which is being abolished by the coalition Goverment.

Last month, Chancellor George Osborne announced as part of his emergency Budget that all regional development agencies (RDAs) will be scrapped and replaced by local enterprise partnerships (LEPs).

Cllr Carter, who has long opposed Seeda, has written to every district leader and chief executive in the county to ask them to help him form an LEP for Kent and Medway.

Artificial

Other recipients of the letter include the Kent Economic Board, the Federation of Small Businesses, the Institute of Directors, the Homes and Communities Agency, and chambers of commerce.

Cllr Carter wrote: "We have all argued for many years that the South East region is an artificial and inefficient construct, and that we can deliver more for less by working together as a family of local authorities and businesses that really understands the needs of the local economy. The Government has indicated some of the activities undertaken by Seeda are likely to be led nationally, while others will be scrapped altogether.

"However, the current approach is non-prescriptive and I believe it is up to us – the local government family working with business – to design a local enterprise partnership around our priorities."

Seeda – which was set up by the previous Labour government in 1999 – had known it was under threat, as current Prime Minister David Cameron spoke out against RDAs before he was elected.

Business secretary Vince Cable and local government secretary Eric Pickles have now invited partnerships of councils and businesses to submit outline LEP proposals by September 6, which prompted Cllr Carter to open discussions on the way forward.

He said: "The risk for Kent is that we fail to make our voice heard where it matters because our proposition is unclear or because we fail to articulate the nationally-important growth potential and regeneration challenges we have.

"In the past, when money was easier, this didn't matter. But it does now, and we owe it to our businesses and citizens to make a new local enterprise partnership work."

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

'Undaunted' Kerswell gets to work

THE new group managing director of Kent County Council started her job this week.

Katherine Kerswell – former chief executive of Northamptonshire County Council – succeeds Peter Gilroy.

She officially started her £197,000-a-year job on Monday and immediately addressed the financial restrictions imposed on the authority. "Life as we know it is changing rapidly," she said.

"The Government has announced big cuts for the whole of the public sector, and we've had the first taste of that with the £15 million reductions we've got to make this year.

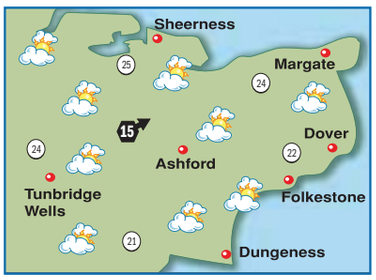
"We know some headline figures at the moment and think we are facing about 25 per cent reductions over the next four years – that is an enormous challenge.

"I have to say I'm not daunted, because I'd rather be with KCC than any other local authority at this time."

Before Northamptonshire, Mrs Kerswell was also chief executive of Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council in the West Midlands, and Redditch Borough Council in Worcestershire. She is currently a non-executive director of the Department for Education, as well as the president of the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers (Solace).

BIG CHANGES: Katherine Kerswell

Kent today



TODAY: It will be another very warm day with sunny spells, but there is also the chance of a few isolated heavy, thundery showers at times too. Light winds. Max temp 24-27C (75-81F). **TONIGHT:** Clear spells. The threat of an isolated heavy shower. Very mild. Light winds. Min temp 12-15C (54-59F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	rain	18	64	London	fair	27	81
Belfast	cloudy	18	64	Liverpool	cloudy	18	64
Birmingham	cloudy	23	73	Manchester	drizzle	21	70
B'mouth	fair	23	73	Newcastle	fair	21	70
Bristol	fair	20	68	Norwich	fair	27	81
Cardiff	cloudy	20	68	Oxford	cloudy	23	73
Cork	cloudy	17	63	Southsea	fair	23	73
Edinburgh	drizzle	19	66	S'hampton	fair	23	73
Glasgow	cloudy	17	63	Southport	fair	18	64
Isle of Man	cloudy	17	63	Swansea	cloudy	18	64
Leeds	drizzle	20	68	Torquay	cloudy	19	66

Sun & moon

Sunrise	4.50am	Sunset	9.11pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	4.09am	Moonset	8.58pm	9.11pm to 4.51am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)
Dover	11.23	6.4	23.38	6.5	–	–	12.11	6.6
Margate	–	–	12.21	4.5	00.47	4.7	13.08	4.6
St Mary's	04.53	5.2	17.16	5.5	05.42	5.4	18.04	5.7

Week ahead

monday Sunny spells. max 24C min12C

tuesday Showery rain. max 21C min 13C

wednesday Heavy showers. max 21C min 12C

thursday Heavy showers. max 20C min 12C

friday Mainly fine. max 21C min 11C

saturday Some sunshine. max 21C min 11C

Ian Learmonth

'Difficult decisions in the future'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

system in to ensure whoever lands the role is still fully accountable."

Mr Learmonth began his career with Essex Police as a cadet in 1974, before joining the regular force in 1976. He spent 28 years there before joining Strathclyde Police as assistant chief constable, where had responsibility for support services, roads policing, emergency planning and most major projects within operational policing.

Previously described by Mrs Barnes as a "copper's copper", Mr Learmonth has already been out on patrol in Kent and told KOS Media it was "vital" to have a good relationship with the officers who serve the force.

He said: "I'm going to have to make some difficult decisions in the future so it's important I know what the impact of those decisions will be."

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DNA catches rapist from 1980s attack

By **MARIJKE COX** and **IAN READ**

A JUDGE has warned dangerous criminals they have nowhere to hide after a man who raped a young girl was jailed 24 years after the attack.

The conviction followed advancements in DNA profiling where a one in a billion match was obtained to catch Paul Dyne, who was sentenced to eight years in prison.

The 45-year-old, from Kingston Road, New Malden in Surrey, was arrested after Kent Police's Cold Case Investigation Team re-examined samples taken after the sex attack in 1986.

A tiny speck of body fluid found on the victim's clothing was enough to catch Dyne – who was 21 at the time of the attack – and at Maidstone Crown Court he pleaded guilty to the rape.

On sentencing this week, Judge Philip Statman praised the cold case team.

"Work of this kind means those who commit serious crimes in Kent have nowhere to hide," he said. "This is valuable and important work."

Deborah Charles, prosecuting, said the woman, 18, had seen Dyne walking along College Road in Deal one February evening in 1986 when she had gone to buy milk from the local shop.

Miss Charles said: "She remembers seeing a tense looking man as she walked. She looked him right in the eye.

RAPIST: Paul Dyne

"She was grabbed from behind and a gloved hand put on her mouth."

Dyne then told his victim he had a knife.

Miss Charles said: "The victim feared the weapon. He dragged her to the ill-lit waste ground and made her kneel in front of him."

But she fell backwards, unable to move with shock, and 6ft Dyne then tied a scarf over her eyes and brutally raped the 5ft 2ins teenager.

Years later and major advances in science meant the tell-tale speck of semen could be analysed and Dyne, who was on the national database for an unrelated offence, was arrested.

Dyne had been working at a shoe factory next to the waste ground in Deal and had been fined for two minor sex offences before in Kingston, Surrey.

The victim said she had hoped to become a teacher, but Dyne had wrecked her self-confidence.

She said: "I spent years on my own and had a long history of panic attacks. I was sick with fear if even the gasman came to my house.

"I used to think I was contaminated as if I had the incident written on my forehead. He took the best years of my life. This incident has tainted my life."

After sentencing, the victim, who is now married, said she can hold her head high and move on.

"The world is a safer place with people like Paul Dyne off the streets," she said.

Simon Ringrose, a South East complex case worker for the Crown Prosecution Service, said it was a particularly shocking crime.

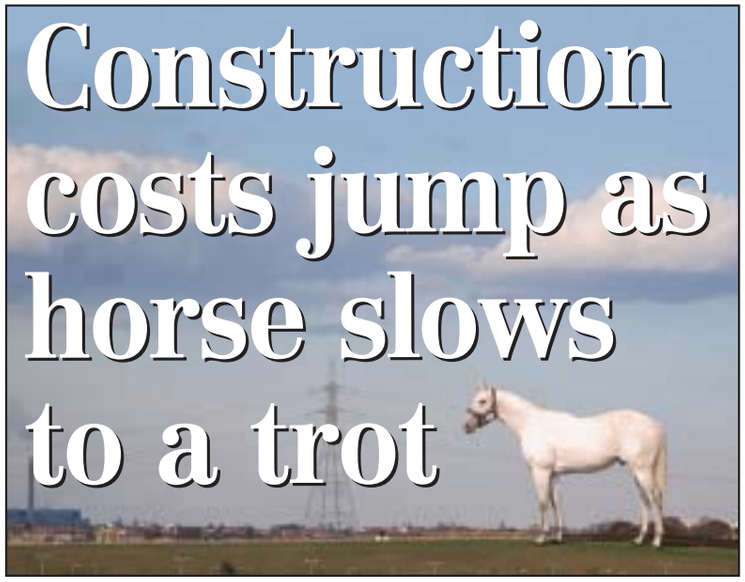
He said: "It is hard for a victim to move on without the closure of knowing someone has been punished for the crime."

Mr Ringrose added that the case not only highlighted advances in DNA technology, but showed how police do not stop working on such investigations.

"The message here is police and the CPS don't give up, so people who carry out crimes of this nature should always be looking over their shoulder," he said.

As well as eight years in prison, Dyne will be on the sex offenders' register for life.

Construction costs jump as horse slows to a trot



By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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BACKERS of the Ebbsfleet White Horse sculpture say the project is not under threat, despite its projected cost sky rocketing by up to £10 million.

The 50-metre-tall structure – designed by Turner Prize-winning artist Mark Wallinger – won planning permission last April and is being part-funded by Eurostar, Land Securities, and London and Continental Railways (LCR).

Original estimates put the total cost of the project at about £2m but that has now risen to £10m-12m.

Despite the massive increase, an LCR spokesman said the backers were still confident of attracting extra funding for the sculpture.

"The horse is not necessarily stuck in the starting blocks," he said. "We have taken the whole thing forward. In order to secure planning permission we had to go into detail about how we were going to build the horse in terms of design, fabrication, safety and making sure it doesn't have a maintenance regime that ends up crippling it.

Lasting

"Because of that we now have a much more accurate assessment of how much it's going to cost.

"If we want it to be around for generations then it's going to cost something between £10m and £12m.

"The early estimate was £1m-2m but it was difficult to ask how much it cost the people behind the other giant white horse, because there isn't one.

"We're breaking new ground here. It's a unique project."

Mr Wallinger fought off tough competition from four other internationally acclaimed artists to win the Ebbsfleet Landmark Project funding back in February last year.

His horse will be 33 times larger than the Riviera Red racehorse he based the sculpture on, and will look out over the new Ebbsfleet Valley development.

The original plan was for the project to be completed in time for the London 2012 Olympics, but the LCR spokesman said the group would "not compromise on design" in order to rush things.

He said: "We all operate in the same economic climate and we are certainly not outside of that, but we have a lot of things going for us.

"It's a wonderfully unique project in a fantastic area and we still have a lot of momentum. The current economic environment doesn't make it any easier to attract funding, but the challenges are the same as they always have been and so are the positives.

"The Olympics are around for a couple of weeks every four years but this horse will be around for generations, so we won't compromise on design and saddle anyone with undue maintenance costs."

Donation is ACE

ROLLER-coaster fans from across the pond have put their hands in their pockets to boost Dreamland's regeneration.

The American Coaster Enthusiasts (ACE) group has given more than £3,000 for the restoration of the Scenic Railway, which was hit by fire in 2008.

The wooden roller-coaster is the oldest in the country and will be the centrepiece of plans to make the site into a heritage theme park.

The Dreamland Trust announced plans for the attraction in 2007. Work on the project, which will cost £12.5 million, is expected to start later this year.

Safety measures 'not good enough'

ORGANISERS of a powerboat race in which a man died after two boats collided in Dover harbour have been criticised in a report that found safety risks were not properly assessed.

The Marine Accident Investigation Branch ruled the August, 2009, Dover Regatta race had confusing rules and was run on a congested course.

It also stated the Royal Yachting Association allowed a large number of inexperienced competitors to take part.

Alex Edmonds, 41, died in the crash, which happened when his powerboat lost control, turned sharply and slowed significantly.

A powerboat following behind struck the side of Mr Edmonds' boat, close to where he was sitting.

The force of the impact tore off his helmet and he suffered severe injuries to his head and upper body.

Mr Edmonds, who lived in Lower Stoke on the Isle of Grain, was a member of Allhallows Yacht Club near his home, where he was "very well liked".

To see this clip search 'Segway' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Julie Maddocks tries her hand at the Segway – an environmentally friendly mode of transport

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Refuge horses to be slaughtered

OWNERS of a sanctuary caring for sick and abused horses fear a mass slaughter is imminent after formal eviction proceedings were started.

Sara and Alan Ross, who run the Horse Refuge at Dobells Farm, near Tenterden, have been unable to raise the £600,000 needed to buy the property after it was put up for sale by their landlord.

Despite efforts and support from celebrities including music mogul Simon Cowell, singer Leona Lewis and actress Jenny Seagrove, the couple now face eviction and 12 of the 50 horses, who are too sick to travel, will be shot.

Mrs Ross, who set up the refuge in 1995, said they are unable to buy the farm despite donations and pledges totalling £232,000.

"Things are not good and the situation is getting much worse," she said.

"We have to keep trying, but I don't know what more we can do.

"We're desperate for donations but I don't think we can raise this money.

"We need to find somewhere to go, but there are about 12 horses which can't travel and would be slaughtered."

The couple had until April to raise the funds needed to buy the farm, but despite failing to reach the target they sat tight at the refuge, hoping a resolution would come.

EVICTED: Sara Ross, inset, is currently looking for a new home for the Horse Refuge, but some of the animals are simply too sick to travel and will have to be put down

But this week Mrs Ross discovered the property had been bought and legal proceedings for formal eviction started.

"I'm beginning to fear the worst – if we don't find a solution these horses will die," she said.

The refuge is home to some of the biggest horses in Europe as well as one once belonging to Paul McCartney's late wife Linda.

In the past two years, the number at the sanctuary has grown dramatically as the recession forced people to give up their horses, with animals being left tethered to the gate outside the refuge.

Thirty other animals, including a parrot and a pig, also live at the farm.

To donate visit www.thehorserefuge.org or to help Mrs Ross find a new property for the refuge call 01797 270555.

Sporting champs

AFTER months of training and competing, around 6,000 young people battled it out last week to be crowned 2010 champions of the Kent School Games.

Youngsters from across the county represented their primary, secondary and special schools in the largest school sports event in Europe.

Sports included athletics, gymnastics, swimming, futsal, archery and trampolining. There were also demonstrations of cheerleading, cricket and rock climbing to encourage young people to try something different.

Double Olympic gold medallist Dame Kelly Holmes, Paralympic champion Danny Crates, sports and Olympics minister Hugh Robertson and Kent County Council leader Cllr Paul Carter all turned out to show their support.

More than 30,000 young people aged four-16 have taken part in 38 different sports, including disability sports, and there are now plans for the KCC-run Games to be used as a model for a national school sports event.

To see this clip search 'games' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Chris Hespe of Kent County Council explains the importance of the Kent School Games

Attacks on ambulance crews on the increase

By **MARIJKE COX**
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AMBULANCE crews tending to sick and injured people are being subjected to assaults and threats of violence on a weekly basis.

Disturbing figures revealed 107 assaults were reported by staff in 2008-09 at South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust (SECAmb), which covers Kent – around two a week – an increase on the previous year which saw 69 incidents.

Nationwide there were 2,705 assaults between 2007-09, prompting calls by unions for a zero tolerance policy where reported cases should lead to prosecution.

VICTIMS: Assaults on ambulance crews are on the increase

Justin Bowden, GMB national officer for ambulance services, said the figures were shocking and this behaviour by some people was unacceptable.

"Every single day at least three ambulance workers nationwide are assaulted whilst doing their jobs," he said. "Being attacked at work is not an occupational hazard for ambulance workers and the only way to confront this issue is with zero tolerance."

Prosecutions in the South East region have more than doubled in two years, with 35 in 2008-09 compared with just 16 in 2007-08.

A SECAmb spokesman said ambulance staff are encouraged to report all incidents of violence, threats of violence and verbal abuse and the Trust makes it clear it is not tolerated as "part of the job".

He added: "SECAmb continues to support a number of campaigns to reduce violence against NHS staff, including the Your Choice of Treatment campaign launched in 2008.

"The campaign's posters are carried on a number of the Trust's frontline vehicles and deliver a clear message that people who assault NHS staff will face prosecution and possible prison."

In May, two youths were arrested after reports of an assault on the crew of the air ambulance while they were tending to an injured baby in Sevenoaks.

The offenders were allegedly seen hanging off the helicopter's tail fin and when asked to stop they became verbally aggressive and one grabbed the pilot around the throat.

The Kent Air Ambulance Service said the incident prevented them from transporting the injured child to hospital, who instead had to be taken by road. The arrested youths were bailed pending further inquiries.

Five months earlier, two paramedics suffered minor injuries after a missile – believed to be a brick or stone – was thrown through the windscreen of their ambulance while attending a 999 call from Gravesend, where a member of the public was having breathing difficulties.

Det Insp Neil Parker said the consequences could have been catastrophic.

"Not only to the occupants, but to any passengers or the person they were due to attend," he added.

Last year, SECAmb security management specialist David Dixon and Unison union representatives from the Trust visited ambulance stations in Kent. Awareness leaflets and posters were handed out to staff.

Mr Dixon said they continually advise employees that they do not have to accept abuse from members of the public.

"We are pleased to have achieved an increase in successful prosecutions," he said.

"It's also encouraging that more staff are coming forward to report incidents and not accepting it as part of the job because they know how seriously we treat the issue."

He added: "We also want staff to know that there are alternative measures available to us such as private prosecutions, civil action and Asbos, which can be taken against those who threaten them."

• *See p10 for urgent appeal for help from the 'Blood Runners'.*

THE INTERVIEW

BY JANE CONNOLLY

Lynn aims to revitalise your spiritual side

MEDITATION teacher Lynn Jackson is offering people the chance to get some added zest at her new holistic parties.

Designed to offer an extra shot of vitality, Juice is held at Nurstead Court in Meopham on a monthly basis. Through a variety of workshops, meditation classes, bonfire ceremonies and other activities, the parties aim to help fun-loving people connect with themselves and each other.

"Juice has been set up for people who have had some experience of holistic practices," Jackson said. "It seems that a lot of us who have been on the spiritual path for some time were becoming a bit jaded and stuck.

Integrity

"There was a lot of excellent work being done by people with a lot of integrity, but there was no joy. People were taking things a bit too seriously. So Juice was a response to the feeling that there needed to be something a bit different, for those who had already done a lot of work in the holistic and spiritual sphere, but wanted to connect with like-minded people."

Jackson's background lies in corporate events organisation, before she opened a shop in West Malling called Mother Earth which prompted her to start giving meditation classes.

"So many people were coming in not necessarily to buy things, but to chat," she said. "The spiritual path can be a lonely one for some people, because their friends and family don't always share their beliefs and understanding in the same way. That's a lot of what Mother Earth was about."

Even after moving on to become a fundraiser for a children's hospice, Jackson felt the need to return to the spiritual field.

"That job was great, but the call of something more spiritually-orientated never really left me," she said. "I knew I needed to find a way back, so I invested in some properties a couple of years ago and went back to the work I really love. That's how Juice came about."

Jackson's interest in meditation began at the age of 27, when she felt in need of a relaxation technique following the death of her mother.

After spotting an advert for meditation classes in an adult education centre, she discovered the benefits of this ancient practice.

"Meditation has had almost more research done on it than any other activity. It has been proved to slow down and harmonise the brain pattern," she said. "It's a different way of relaxing. It's not wakeful, normal consciousness, but it's not sleep either.

"Because it affects your brain pattern, it allows the whole body to rest in a way that sleep does not. It has been proved that 20 minutes of good meditation is as beneficial as a good night's sleep. It has a tremendous effect on your whole body, mentally, emotionally and physically."

The next Juice party will be held at Nurstead Court on Sunday, July 18. To find out more, go online at www.juice-kent.co.uk or call 07935 466029.

ROSY OUTLOOK: Lynn Jackson wants to lead you down the spiritual path at Juice

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CARNAGE: Bus blasted at Tavistock Square

Survivor moving on from horrors of 7/7 bombings

THE horrifying images of the destruction caused by four suicide bombers five years ago this week are seared in the public memory, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

And for the families of the 52 people who died and the hundreds who survived, July 7, 2005, will remain a part of their lives forever.

Wednesday saw families of those killed in the terror attacks lay wreaths at the four bomb sites in London, and also at the Hyde Park memorial alongside Prime Minister David Cameron and London Mayor Boris Johnson.

And many survivors returned to the places where they witnessed untold horrors after Islamic extremists Shehzad Tanweer, 22, Mohammed Sidique Khan, 30, and Jermaine Lindsay, 19, blew up tube trains at Aldgate, Edgware Road, and between King's Cross and Russell Square. The fourth bomber, Hasib Hussain, 18, set off his device on a number 30 bus in Tavistock Square.

In total 56 people – including the four bombers – died and some 770 were injured.

But while many felt if necessary to go back, others made the choice to keep away.

"I'm not going to London, I'm going to do something nice to take my mind away from it," said Beverli Rhodes, from Kennington in Ashford.

"The fifth anniversary marks a major change for me. I need to move on and concentrate on the positive things in life."

The 49-year-old was caught up in the attacks while travelling to work on the tube train blown up near King's Cross station.

She was about to get off the train when she was thrown forward into a pole and knocked unconscious as the bomb went off. As well as injuries to her chest and leg, the grandmother-of-two suffered severe facial injuries and had to undergo major surgery to rebuild her face. She has also suffered post-traumatic stress disorder since the attacks.

Enormity

"When I woke in the train we were in darkness and there was smoke everywhere and a sticky burning sensation. No-one knew what was happening, but messages being passed down the carriages suggested there was a fire at King's Cross," she said.

"We were down there for about 40 minutes not knowing what was happening, but the brain does funny things and I seemed to be lulled into a false sense of security."

Following the attack, however, the enormity of what had happened hit her with full force and she suffered post-traumatic stress disorder.

"I have horrific nightmares of being down there again. Unfortunately, there's no pill for this and it gets to a point where you are afraid to sleep," she said.

Mrs Rhodes – who ironically worked for security consultants Capita Symonds as an expert on anti-terrorism strategies – set up the Survivors Coalition Foundation to bring together victims of terror attacks.

She has also campaigned against the decision not to allow survivors to make representations at victims' inquests or the public inquiry due to be held later this year.

But Mrs Rhodes is intent on a positive future as an artist, using her work for the healing process.

Another Kent victim was 28-year-old Philip Russell, from East Peckham in Tonbridge, who died following the explosion on the number 30 bus at Tavistock Square.

His parents Grahame and Veronica attended memorial ceremonies on Wednesday to pay tribute to their son and the others who died with him.

Since his death his parents have set up a scholarship fund in his name at Kingston University where Philip spent four years.

His father said: "Philip's death is a tragedy from which the family will never recover, but to have been given the ability to create a memorial that will further the education of some while benefiting those less fortunate is, in itself, a fitting tribute to his name."

ONWARDS: Beverli survived attack on the Tube

Jellyfish: a blooming menace

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

LOOK but don't touch, is the warning from experts about the jellyfish off Kent's shores.

They may have no brains, bones, eyes or heart, but if enough of them are able to blindly land a blow, a swimmer would certainly feel the sting in the tail.

Now marine biologists are calling on users of the Kent coast to keep a look out for jellyfish and report any sightings.

It is part of a national survey so the experts can see where the really nasty ones are.

Peter Richardson, biodiversity programme manager at the Marine Conservation Society (MCS), said: "We have received sightings of 50 or more moon jellyfish off Viking Bay, which is actually fairly normal in that part of the world for this time of the year. There might be more out there and we would love to hear from your readers of any other sightings."

Gatherings of jellyfish are known as blooms, and as the seas warm more will appear, so if you are out swimming be aware they could be around, Mr Richardson said.

He added: "As they can sting, we encourage those in the water to take part in our jellyfish survey and report encounters. But the key message is look, don't touch."

The aim of the Jellyfish Survey is to understand more about where and when jellyfish occur around the UK.

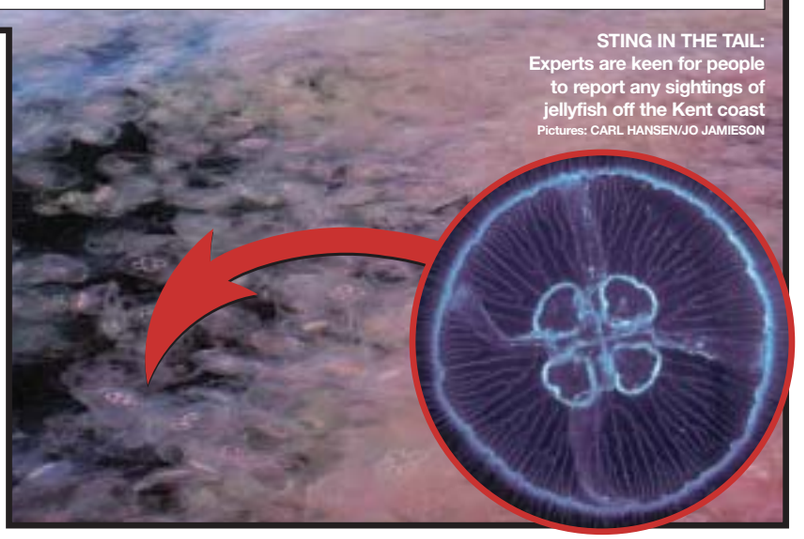
It's part of a wider MCS programme to discover more about leatherback turtles who migrate thousands of miles to UK waters to feed on their favourite jellyfish prey each summer.

By mapping the jellyfish, MCS hopes to understand more about the leatherback turtles while they visit in UK waters.

Mr Richardson said: "In some parts of the world jellyfish numbers appear to be increasing, and scientists have linked these increases to factors such as pollution, overfishing and possibly climate change.

"We should consider jellyfish populations as important indicators of the state of our seas, and the MCS jellyfish survey helps provides some of the information we need to understand them more."

To report a jellyfish sighting, check the MCS jellyfish photo-ID guide and download a recording form from www.mcsuk.org.



STING IN THE TAIL: Experts are keen for people to report any sightings of jellyfish off the Kent coast
Pictures: CARL HANSEN/JO JAMIESON

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Downturn leaves our old buildings at risk of collapse

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

HISTORIC buildings at risk of crumbling beyond repair are suffering further from the global economic downturn, says English Heritage.

The charity published its annual Heritage at Risk register this week, revealing that 101 castles, monuments and other listed buildings in Kent face the very real possibility of falling apart due to a lack of investment.

But it's not all bad news for the county as two previously at-risk structures – the Montreal Park Obelisk in Sevenoaks and the barn at Westenhanger Castle, near Hythe – have both been removed from the register.

Dr Andy Brown, English Heritage's regional director in the South East, spoke about the impact of the global recession on repairing neglected or decaying sites.

He said: "We have been monitoring the buildings for 10 years and what is telling is that for the first time we have not been able to make very much progress on the register.

"Some of these repair projects have not been able to get off the ground, mostly because the recession means people are reluctant to put money in and are worried about what is over the horizon. But if people put off the low-key maintenance such as keeping the gutters clear and roof tiles straight to save money, it is such a false economy and you can end up with expensive projects."

The contents of this year's Heritage at Risk register were announced on Wednesday at the Grade-I listed Hadlow Tower, near Tonbridge, which suffered extensive damage in the great storm of 1987.

While the 19th century structure has been included on the register since its inception in 1999, plans are now well under way to bring it back into use as a holiday property.

The group in charge of the development – the Vivat Trust – has already secured funding from a range of charitable organisations, but more is needed before the restoration work can begin.

Testament

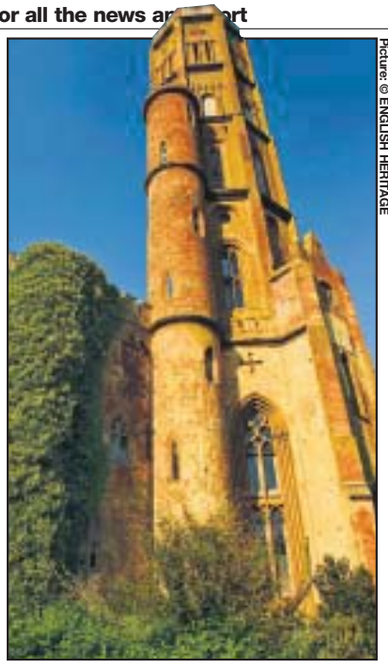
Meanwhile, the Heritage at Risk initiative also includes a sample survey of the 2,254 places of worship in the South East, which concludes that about 86 per cent are in either good or fair condition.

And two such Kent churches – St Giles in Shipbourne, near Tonbridge, and St Michael and St Bishoy Coptic Orthodox in Margate – have been highlighted as exemplary case studies in terms of illustrating the range of activities church buildings can provide.

Dr Brown said: "The fact 86 per cent of places of worship are in at least fair condition is a huge testament to the hard work of their congregations. Many of these buildings are among the region's greatest architectural treasures, serving diverse communities and faith groups.

By undertaking this survey we have uncovered truly inspiring stories of how people have turned under-utilised places of worship into dynamic centres of local life.

"But we are also aware many other places of worship face very uncertain futures. Ultimately we will add the most vulnerable to our Heritage at Risk register, making it easier for congregations to get help from heritage organisations, local authorities and the community."



Picture: © ENGLISH HERITAGE

GROUNDWORK: Work is well under at the former at-risk Hadlow Tower, near Tonbridge

Natural beauties gathering

THE National Association for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty is holding its annual conference at the Kent Downs in Hythe this week.

Representatives from Natural England, the Countryside Council for Wales and more will attend the gathering, which will include nine field trips throughout the county on Tuesday.

The theme of the conference relates to 2010 as the International Year of Diversity, with discussion topics including tourism, climate change, forestry and marine life.

Visit www.kentdowns.org.uk for more information.

Students' designs blossom

HADLOW College has bagged a haul of top awards and medals for a garden and floral arrangement created by its students at the prestigious Hampton Court Palace Flower Show.

The garden, reflecting how climate change could affect the crops grown in Kent, was named best small garden at the show in Surrey.

The Food 4 Thought display scooped a gold medal, and the Crown Jewels display created by higher diploma students was named best exhibit and the best college arrangement. The college's floral arrangement also stole the show by winning two awards and a gold medal.

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Arresting level of veterans' distress

TRAUMATISED military veterans are the focus of a national campaign aimed at stopping thousands of former soldiers being arrested each month.

It follows a 12-week pilot by Kent Police and the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA) Forces Help which looked at how many ex-service personnel were entering the criminal justice system.

The findings showed that in the three months from April and June, 232 former and current servicemen and women were arrested in the county – an average of four a day – with a third for violent crime.

The majority were men aged between 18 and 29, with almost half unemployed. Projected nationwide, the figures suggest thousands are getting into trouble with the law every month.

Assessment

Recommendations put forward this week by the Justice Unions Parliamentary Group (JUPG) include all service personnel being given access to psychological assessments, plus advice on welfare, employment and housing before leaving the forces.

Neil Payne, divisional secretary at SSAFA, who sat on the JUPG committee, said the traumas of war and readjusting to civilian life were to blame for the high number of military offenders, thought to make up eight per cent of the prison and probation population.

He said: "We need to raise awareness of the help available. Many are suffering but don't know where to get support."

The pilot saw Kent Police adapting the custody computer system to ask detainees if they had served in the forces. Constabularies across the country are now adopting the scheme.

• For help, contact SSAFA Forces Help on 020 7403 8783; Combat Stress 0800 169 2277; or Service Personnel and Veterans Agency 0800 169 2277.

More Blood Runners is a matter of life and death

Picture: JOHN MARSH www.studiomarsh.com

LIFEBLOOD: More volunteer SERV riders are needed to provide weekend cover

A CHARITY relied upon by hospitals to provide emergency blood supplies to patients throughout the night has sent out its own cry for help.

The Kent branch of SERV (Service by Emergency Rider Volunteers) – also known as the Blood Runners – has about 60 volunteers who regularly help save lives by delivering blood from London to A&E departments at short notice. But if the group wants to work during the day at weekends – as hospitals have requested – it is going to need more helpers to come forward.

Accidents

Tim Kidd, chief co-ordinator for SERV Kent, said: "It's always good to have more volunteers. We only do a night service [between 7pm and 6am, seven days a week], but would like to extend that to Saturday and Sunday daytime because that's what the hospitals want from us. We can only do that if we have enough people and at the moment we do not."

The national SERV organisation was founded in 1981 when it became evident the NHS was wasting money on courier services and taxis to do the same job, or taking police cars and ambulances off the road.

SERV Kent was formed 13 years later, and last year its volunteers – the majority of whom ride motorbikes – attended 554 call-outs.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

"Most of our helpers do it to give something back," said Mr Kidd. "Some have had nasty accidents and benefited from our service, while others have relatives who needed blood due to problems during pregnancy.

"We're a friendly and proactive organisation and we all get satisfaction from doing something that could save someone. Our volunteers know what we do could literally be the difference between life and death."

Before last year, the Blood Runners mainly operated in the west of the county, but now the majority of hospitals in Kent benefit from the service.

Most of the supplies picked up come from a blood bank in Tooting, south London, which is relayed to the edge of the city for collection.

Mr Kidd said: "We don't need tonnes of money because we're all volunteers and therefore don't pay fuel expenses or anything like that.

"However, we always welcome donations because we need to pay for things like maintaining the bikes."

• Email secretary@servkent.org for more information about becoming a volunteer.

Potholes estimate doubles to £6.5m

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

THE final repair bill for the county's pothole-ridden roads is expected to top £6.5 million – nearly double the last estimate for the work.

The county council-run 'find and fix' scheme has been running since the middle of April, and since that time an area the size of 46 Olympic-size swimming pools has been relaid.

The authority has already set aside £3.4m to repair the damage caused by last winter's cold snap, but the cash is expected to fall short of what is actually needed.

Cabinet members will be asked to approve an additional £1.5m funding at their meeting on Monday, to add to the £1.5m already saved through efficiencies at Kent Highway Services.

A report co-authored by cabinet member for highways Cllr Nick Chard reads: "The find and fix approach is clearly showing favour with many people, however with the rate of repair significantly higher than usual, the cost is greater.

FILLED IN: Repairs to roads continue

"We have continued to repair many of the county's worst roads and although there is still more to do, progress is good.

"On a find and fix approach it is inherently difficult to estimate the additional sums needed to complete the task. It is expected that the spend per road will start reducing as the project moves away from the worst roads to those with fewer defects."

As of June 22, Ashford had seen the most repairs with 1,801; and Dover the least with 226. In terms of total size of the potholes, Tunbridge Wells tops the patching area league table with 6,778 square metres from its 885 potholes.

So far, a total of 57,000 square metres of road have been relaid across all 12 districts, excluding Medway, but it is estimated there is still another 170,000 square metres to go.

The roads being targeted are all 'non-principal' roads – those which are not motorways, A-roads or B-roads, with local firms winning contracts to carry out the repairs.

Motorways are the responsibility of the Highways Agency while A and B-roads are all being handled by county council contractor Ringway.

The cabinet report adds: "Kent Highway Services is planning to increase its programme for surface dressing rural roads over the coming two to three years, to be financed through reprioritisation of existing capital maintenance spend. This will ensure the significant investment made through the find and fix programme is protected over the coming years."

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

THE majority of readers who voted in an online poll at kentnews.co.uk will not have been happy with the FA's decision to keep Fabio Capello as England manager.

After a crushing 4-1 World Cup defeat to Germany, 58 per cent of the 291 people who voted answered yes to the question: 'Should Capello be sacked by the FA?'.

Rural rave nipped in the bud

RAVERS' plans for a woodland party were unplugged by police after a tip-off.

Officers broke up a rave which was being set up in Clowes Wood, between Whitstable and Canterbury, last Saturday. Officers found a dozen people in the woods at 3.30pm with six sets of loudspeakers. The would-be party organisers were asked to leave and take their amplifiers with them. Area commander Chief Insp Steve Barlow said: "We were able to act quickly and stop the rave going ahead. If anyone hears of raves being planned, contact us."

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County Show puts the focus back on farming in a bid to grow visitor numbers

Showcase for rural life

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

THOUSANDS of spectators will flock to Maidstone next weekend to enjoy the sights and sounds of the annual Kent County Show.

First held in 1923, the show is a celebration of rural life with typical attractions including bird of prey displays, agricultural demonstrations, livestock competitions and a young farmers area.

Total attendance for last year's three-day programme was about 80,000, but organiser the Kent County Agricultural Society (KCAS) hopes an improved marketing campaign will help swell that by at least a further 10,000.

As always, the show will be held at the County Showground in Detling, and will again run for three days from Friday, July 16.

Launching the show back in February, KCAS chairman George Jessel said he was putting the focus back on farming following criticism of previous events.

He said: "In the past there has been the odd criticism about us being too focused on aspects like selling cars and not enough on agriculture, but that's going to change.

"This year there will be lots of exciting new stands and rings, and the show will be more agriculturally and horticulturally-based.

"We're going to be thinking outside the box. It's not going to be the old mundane run-of-the-mill show that perhaps we've been putting on in recent years.

"We're going to attack 2010 with real vigour and attract people back."

You can see the KOS Media stall in the EcoVillage – a 7,000 sq m of space with 70 exhibitors. Whitstable-based EcoVillage will be promoting green businesses, products and organisations to people attending the show.

Terrier racing

One of the main features of this year's show will again be the interactive Why Farming Matters attraction, which will allow visitors to learn something new about the countryside and where food comes from.

The Kent Young Farmers area is now larger than usual, as is the countryside area that will showcase hound pens, gundogs, birds of prey, terrier racing and more.

There will also be a new public lawn as well as wider viewing areas around the Astor Ring, which will host show-jumping classes and a display by the White Helmets Motorcycle Display Team.

EXTRAVAGANZA: There will be traditional livestock displays to enjoy at the show

Music will be provided by Mr Soul, Divine Abba, the Caribbean Melody Steel Band and Casablanca Steps. A wide range of refreshments will also be available.

Advance tickets cost £15 per adult (£17 on the gate) and come with two complimentary child tickets per purchase. Additional children cost £5 (£7.50 on the gate) and senior citizens £11 (£12 on the gate).

Log on to www.kentshowground.co.uk or call 01622 630975 for more information.

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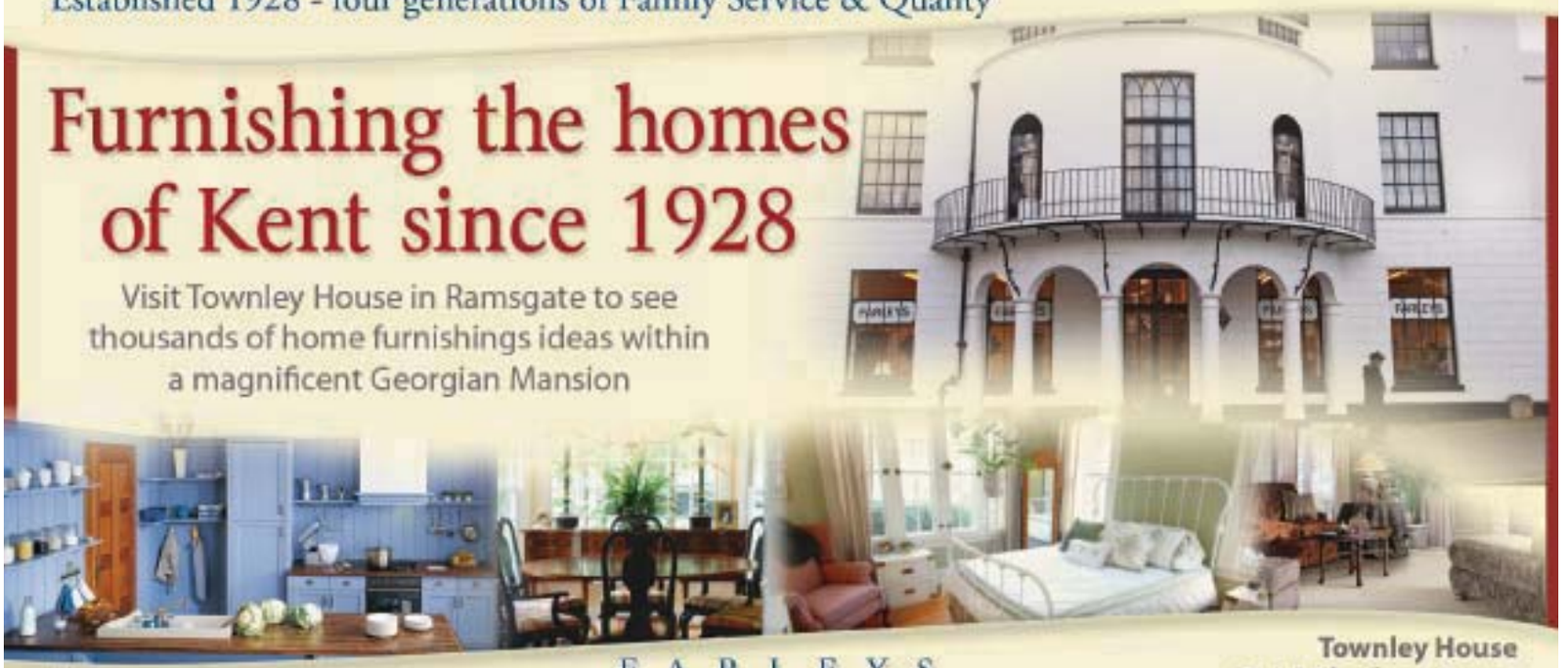

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Merge forces to save cash, says ex-police union leader

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

AN INFLUENTIAL former Kent chief inspector has urged the coalition Government to save money by putting pressure on police forces to merge.

Jan Berry, who spent 35 years at Kent Police between 1973-2008, is currently the Home Office's 'anti-red-tape tsar' and says she thinks the number of constabularies in Britain could be halved.

Her former employer already has a strong working partnership with Essex Police, but senior officers have on several occasions refuted suggestions that the two are planning to merge.

Mrs Berry told reporters: "Forty-three (constabularies in Britain) is clearly unsustainable from a financial, and sometimes from an operational, perspective.

"I would say somewhere around 20, or perhaps between 20 and 30, would provide far better cost savings. What the public don't want is the back-up costs of 43 forces."

During her time in the county Mrs Berry also served as general secretary of the Inspectors' Central Committee (between 1997-2000), was chairman of the Kent Police Federation from 1981-93, and head of the national Police Federation from 2002-08.

She is not the first person to encourage the merging of police forces, as last December a government White Paper put Kent and Essex forward as two possible partners.

But a Kent Police spokesperson said at the time: "The two forces and authorities have a history of working together and created a more formal collaboration about two-and-a-half years ago. While some resources are shared – for example the use of the police helicopter and mounted police – the intention has always been to maintain the distinct identity of each force."

Meanwhile, Kent Police Authority chairwoman Ann Barnes says police are setting a good example to other public bodies when it comes to dealing with the severe financial cuts imposed upon them.

That was the message given to colleagues at last week's national policing conference, which was attended by some of the most senior ranking officers in the country.

Kent Police has to identify almost £24 million of savings over the next three years but is confident the cuts will not have an impact on frontline services.

Mrs Barnes said after the conference: "Everyone knows on the back of the Budget announcement there are going to be massive cuts in public sector spending.

"Authorities around the country face a challenge, but I have been struck by the leadership of the police service in response to the coalition Government's focus on the budget deficit.

"The 'can do' culture of the police service is sometimes dismissed rather sniffily by commentators and academics, but now is the opportunity for this great public service to show what 'can do' really does mean."

Mrs Barnes was one of several keynote speakers at the Manchester conference, which was also attended by the Home Secretary Theresa May.

Other topics included in her speech were ensuring value for money for the taxpayer, and her opposition to plans to replace police authorities with commissioners elected by the public.

She said: "I doubt if anyone at the conference underestimates the challenges ahead.

"There are unquestionably some fundamental issues that need to be addressed at a local and national level such as what will be the size, shape and composition of our workforce, and the implications of this on policing. We need to find a way to balance the books and at the same time provide the best possible policing service."

CHANGE: Jan Berry (left) claims UK constabularies could be halved

CAMERAS used by Kent Police to record motorists' movements are to be more tightly regulated.

The Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology – launched nationally in 2006 – is used to detect criminal activity ranging from motorists with no insurance to stolen cars.

In Kent it records the movements of one million cars a day, using 200 hidden cameras in undisclosed locations.

However, Home Secretary Theresa May says she wants more accountability and safeguards in the use of the database.

Privacy campaigners say the restrictions are long overdue as photographs taken by the cameras sometimes include images of the driver and any passengers.

Crimestoppers record 100,000th arrest

A CRIME-fighting hotline that relies on anonymous tip-offs from the public has secured its 100,000th arrest.

Set up in 1988 by business tycoon Lord Ashcroft, Crimestoppers – which has a branch in the village of Lympne, near Hythe – has become a vital police resource in clearing the streets of criminals.

The charity secured its landmark arrest last week, with about 3,000 of the 100,000 total having been made in the county.

Kent's Deputy Chief Constable Gary Beautridge said: "Crimestoppers has been a huge success both nationally, regionally and locally.

"The figures speak for themselves, with criminal arrests running to 100,000 and property recovery running into millions of pounds."

The charity has helped police charge 887 people with murder or attempted murder, seize more than £189 million of drugs, and recover more than £112m of other goods.

Southern Crimestoppers was launched in 1995 to cover Kent, Sussex, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, but now each county works independently under a central office in Morden, south London.

Lord Ashcroft, who remains the charity's chairman, said: "Anonymity for those providing information to the police has been the key to our success. I am immensely proud of what Crimestoppers has achieved."

The Crimestoppers hotline number – 0800 555111 – is also regularly featured on the BBC's Crimewatch.

Last month a special daytime version of the show was filmed for a week in various locations throughout Kent.

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Illegal camping killing off endangered orchids

A COLONY of rare bee orchids has been destroyed by people who keep setting up illegal camps and bonfires on a protected wildlife area, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

Conservationists are angry people appear to keep targeting the area around Sugarloaf Hill and Holywell, which forms part of the Folkestone Downs. It is one of Europe's most treasured wildlife areas and is protected by law.

Anyone found damaging the land faces fines of up to £20,000, and now the police are stepping up patrols in an attempt to find who is setting the fires.

Philip Green is the project officer for the White Cliffs Countryside Partnership that looks after the area.

He said the problem had been going on for quite a while, and a new fire was found in recent weeks. It was at the bottom of Sugarloaf Hill, on what had been a colony of bee orchids.

Mr Green said not only were the orchids destroyed, but embers in the fire were still hot, which created a huge fire risk and a danger to children, walkers and their dogs.

The hills and fields around Sugarloaf and Castle Hill are particularly important for their orchid-rich chalk grassland. One of the orchids growing there, the late spider orchid, is one of Britain rarest plants.

Now the Countryside Partnership is working with Kent Police to catch and prosecute illegal campers, and Mr Green is appealing for the public's help in finding those responsible.

A GROWING PROBLEM: Campers face prosecution and a hefty fine if found in the protected wildlife area of Sugarloaf Hill and Holywell on the Folkestone Downs where the rare bee orchid (far left) grows

Oblivious

He told KoS: "We don't believe these teenagers are out to destroy the orchids, but some of them keep coming back time and again ignoring the warnings that they could be prosecuted.

"I am now taking pictures of these people and handing them to police to follow up and I understand action could be taken. The fines can be large.

"As we understand it, they come along, set up tents and spend the night there drinking sitting around a camp fire. It may sound like fun, but they are usually underage and are destroying protected wildlife.

"Some may be oblivious of the damage caused, but many come back over and over, and are not worried about the damage.

"They are just out for a good time, and don't care about the devastation to the wildlife and environment they cause."

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- 1pm - 1.30pm. A chance to question senior NHS staff on a 'Question Time' panel
- Copies of the Agenda and papers will be available on our website, please visit www.eckcommunityservices.nhs.uk

For questions relating to the agenda please contact:

Jill Mackenzie
Tel: 01233 667840
Email: jill.mackenzie@eastcoastkent.nhs.uk

Disabled being helped back into work

A PIONEERING project co-led by people with learning disabilities has been launched to help the county's disabled get into the workplace.

The strategy, which includes a new DVD created by people with disabilities, looks to support those who may have in the past been overlooked by employers.

Officials at County Hall hope the project will help alleviate pressure on the welfare system, while giving disabled people the chance to have as the same chances as everyone else.

Cllr Graham Gibbens, cabinet member for adult social care at Kent County Council, said people with learning difficulties need this support.

"It is so much better for them to come off benefits and get into the workplace, and over the last four or five years society has been supportive in trying to make this happen," he said.

"People with learning disabilities should not be subjected to a life on benefits. They should be given equal life chances to show off their talents."

The DVD, commissioned by the Jobs Action Group and made with support from Kent Supported Employment and the Skillnet Group, forms part of a draft strategy to enhance the lives of disabled people.

The plan will be presented to the Kent Partnership Board in September to gain full approval.

Cllr Gibbens said: "The future is looking positive and more people will get into work with this support.

"The DVD demonstrates what there is to help people in the county, while showing the potential to employers.

"A lot of this is about making employers aware of the benefits of taking on people with learning disabilities, not only on them but on society. It is quite clear from firms that already employ people with learning disabilities that there are no constraints and there is real talent there."

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'Boris Island' backers seek new MPs vote

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

A CROSS-party group of MPs is on the hunt for new members to support Boris Johnson's controversial plan for an airport in the Thames Estuary.

Despite almost universal opposition to the £40 billion 'Boris Island' scheme – which the Mayor of London believes would reduce the pressure on Heathrow – more than 20 have already given their backing to it.

The All-Party Thames Estuary Airport Parliamentary Group was formed in January last year, but has since launched a recruitment drive following the election of 226 new MPs in May.

Among those invited to join by chairman Bernard Jenkin was his Tory colleague and new Sittingbourne and Sheppey representative Gordon Henderson, who rejected the invite.

He said: "I sent an email back and told him I was opposed to the mere suggestion of an airport in the estuary, and that he could take that as an indication that I would not be joining his group. This proposal has been going on for so long now, as far back as when they wanted to build an airport on Maplin Sands (in the early 1970s). It's less a matter of flogging a dead horse and more of flogging a dead dinosaur. There's less going for such a proposal now than there ever has been, so I've no idea why they've decided to resurrect the matter."

Mr Johnson originally put the Thames Estuary idea forward as an alternative to the third runway scheme at Heathrow, which was approved by the previous Labour government, but has since been scrapped by the Con-Lib coalition.

Significant

The Mayor says his proposal – which would be connected to the new High Speed 1 rail service – could be built within 10 years and financed by oil-rich countries in the Gulf.

His plans have also won the backing of world-renowned engineer Douglas Oakervee, who masterminded a similar project in Hong Kong.

But the scheme has attracted widespread criticism from the start, and last January a feasibility study conducted by Medway Council planning officers concluded that such an airport would be too far from London, too near a major liquid natural gas port and would cause significant harm to the Kent landscape.

The report also pointed out that Kent International Airport at Manston already has one of the longest runways in Europe and could be connected to the existing high-speed rail service at a fraction of what it would cost with Boris Island.

Meanwhile, Medway Council leader Cllr Rodney Chambers is also on a recruitment drive among new MPs, albeit for supporters for his anti-Boris Island campaign.

He said: "Now we've had a general election and there are a number of new Members of Parliament, it is a good opportunity to seek even more support than we already have in our campaign."

IDEAS MAN: Mayor Boris Johnson

Look again at maternity unit move, says minister

NEW health secretary Andrew Lansley has ordered a fresh look at plans to downgrade Maidstone's maternity unit.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust has clashed with campaigners over its proposal of moving the consultant-led maternity unit to the new Pembury hospital.

MP Helen Grant and the Maidstone Action for Services in Hospital (MASH) pressure group have both voiced their objections against the plans.

It had been hoped Mr Lansley would rule out the move. But the minister has instead ordered new consultations between the health trust and local GPs, councils, maternity workers and patients, although he has accepted changes will have to be made. They are to report to him in two months.

Maidstone and Weald MP Mrs Grant said: "It cannot be right that Kent's county town, with its growing population is to have no consultant-led maternity services.

"Removing the choice for many Maidstone mums to have their babies near home just to fill some newly created beds 45 minutes away is wrong and dangerous."

Dennis Fowle, chairman of MASH, says health officials are pandering to a lobby based in Tunbridge Wells.

"The changes must not be made to satisfy a Tunbridge Wells demand for an all-singing department in a highly expensive PFI hospital at Pembury," he said.

A Trust spokesman said: "We will be working closely with our partners and stakeholders to address remaining public concerns."

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Somme heroes remembered

Memorial services in French towns commemorate the anniversary of the start of the Battle of the Somme in World War One, in which two Kent regiments played their part in the notorious offensive that would claim the lives of more than a million soldiers from both sides

THE bloodiest day in the history of the British Army – July 1, 1916 – was commemorated at poignant services large and small in northern France last week, ***writes Nick Ames.***

On the first day alone at the Battle of the Somme there were 60,000 casualties – including more than 19,000 dead.

Among the soldiers who advanced over no-man's-land towards a network of trenches and barbed wire under hails of machine gun fire were two local regiments, The Buffs (East Kent) and the Royal West Kent (Queen's Own).

This year a tribute at the massive Memorial to the Missing at Thiepval in France remembered the sacrifice of a generation.

The structure commemorates those who literally disappeared during the conflict which ran from 1914-18 – blown apart, drowned in the mud or buried forever. On it are 72,000 names.

Crosses

The recovered bodies of soldiers are buried in graveyards which dot the area. Crosses are inscribed with name, age, unit and rank, along with the day they died.

A total of 30 members of The Buffs and 20 Royal West Kent soldiers who fell in the first attack of the battle on July 1 are inscribed at Thiepval.

And in total the monument has the names of 536 Buffs and 833 West Kent men.

The Battle of the Somme was one of the largest battles of World War One and by the time fighting had petered out in late autumn 1916, more than 1.5 million casualties had been suffered by the forces involved.

A regimental sergeant major of The Buffs, called Moody, compiled an account of the brutal opening day.

He wrote: "On the great 1st of July the 55th Brigade, a unit of which was the 7th Battalion The Buffs, held the line in front of Carnoy, and its objective was a trench about 200 yards north of the Montauban-Fricourt road.

"At 7am our barrage became intense and remained so till 7.22, at which time all guns of the trench mortar battery opened for eight minutes, and at the zero hour the whole brigade went forward to the assault.

"The Carnoy mine craters took six hours to clear, and six hours' very heavy fighting it was, carried out under 2nd Lieut Tatum, whose efforts were rewarded with a Military Cross.

"There is no doubt that during the operation, which was carried out more or less as planned, our troops encountered far more opposition than was anticipated; this was particularly the case at the attacks on the craters, which only two platoons were originally assigned. The whole position proved to be strong.

"The Buffs remained in the frontline trenches till the night of the July 4-5 and were heavily shelled, the enemy relaxing nothing of his activity and energy in this respect. The Pommiers line had been consolidated and it was now the special mark of the German gunners."

The plan for the Somme offensive evolved out of Allied strategic discussions at Chantilly, Oise, in December, 1915.

The Anglo-French offensive was intended to create a breach in the German line which could then be exploited with a decisive blow.

With the German attack on Verdun on the River Meuse in February, 1916, the Allies were forced to adapt their plans. The British Army took the lead on the Somme, though the French contribution remained significant.

The opening day of the battle on July 1, 1916, saw the British Army suffer the worst one-day combat losses in its history, with nearly 60,000 casualties.

Because of the composition of the British Army, a volunteer force with many battalions comprising men from specific areas, these losses had a profound social impact and have given the Somme a lasting cultural legacy in Britain.

Graveyards

The conduct of the battle has been a source of historical controversy – senior officers such as General Sir Douglas Haig, the commander of the British Expeditionary Force, and Henry Rawlinson, the commander of Fourth Army, have been criticised for incurring severe losses while failing to achieve their territorial objectives.

But other historians have portrayed the Somme as a vital preliminary to the defeat of the German Army, and one which taught the British Army valuable tactical and operational lessons.

At the end of the battle, British and French forces had penetrated a total of six miles into German occupied territory.

SACRIFICE: The Memorial to the Missing in Thiepval, northern France, is inscribed with the names of 72,000 soldiers

Now, dotted by immaculately kept graveyards the area around the Somme is largely farmland with wooded areas and villagers.

But it still retains the legacy of the battle.

Each year explosives, weapons, helmets and even body parts are discovered as the earth gives up its secrets.

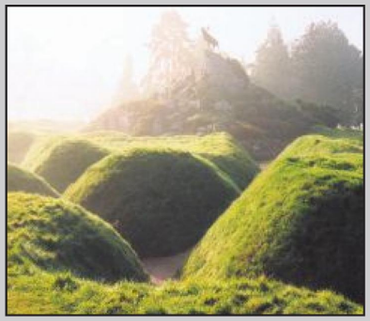
Many finds are on display in the Museum of the Great War in the small town of Peronne – close to the frontline of 1916.

Curator Frederick Hadley said: "The crosses which commemorate the lives of these soldiers are a constant reminder of sacrifice by Britain, which sent men to protect our country.

"For that reason British visitors will always be very welcome here. We keep the memory of those who died alive and want to show our respect."

Chris Barker from Gillingham belongs to a military re-enactment group and attended the commemorations in the uniform of a soldier from 1916.

"I want to pay my own tribute," he said. "And I want people who don't know to learn about what happened almost 100 years ago."



UNEARTHED: Artefacts on display at the Museum of the Great War in Peronne, and (right) the trenches which to this day are a timely reminder of the Battle of the Somme

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Tackling effects of alcohol and cigarettes on health, environment and society

Pouring booze down drains 'against law'

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

POLICE who confiscate alcohol from underage drinkers have been told they are flouting environmental laws by pouring the booze into roadside drains.

The 1997 Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Act makes it legal for officers to dispose of alcohol "in such a manner as he/she considers appropriate" in front of the youngsters they have seized it from.

However, by pouring it down roadside drains police in Maidstone may have fallen foul of the 1991 Water Resources Act, which states it is an offence to knowingly permit any poisonous, noxious or polluting matter to enter any controlled waters.

The Environment Agency (EA) confirmed that alcohol falls under this legislation, which brings a maximum penalty of three years' imprisonment. And despite a Kent Police official telling KOS Media the force had gained permission from the EA to pour alcohol down drains, the next day a statement revealed officers were to be advised against doing so.

In the statement, head of licensing PC Barbara Murray said current policy was for all drinks containers – regardless of whether they have been opened or not – to be emptied in the presence of those they are seized from. She added: "This method of disposal is adopted by forces across the UK and reinforces to the person from whom the alcohol has been confiscated the consequences of their behaviour.

"We recognise alcohol should not be poured directly into a drain and will be making sure officers are properly informed about the correct method of disposal."

The EA confirmed it will not be taking legal action against the force.

DRAINED: Officers in police picture

A spokesman said: "The agency discourages the disposal of all liquids other than water via drainage systems. A single can of beer is unlikely to have a noticeable impact and we appreciate the police are making concerted efforts to tackle antisocial behaviour associated with alcohol."

A photograph of two officers pouring what appears to be a bottle of vodka and an alcopop into a drain was circulated by Kent Police last week. The picture was to highlight a new alcohol control zone in Maidstone, which has been enforced in the town centre. Police now have the power to arrest or fine people who continue to drink within the zone after being told to stop.

Licensing officer Neil Barnes said: "These powers are not intended to disrupt peaceful activities such as families having a picnic in the park, but are designed to address nuisance or annoyance.

"We would like to emphasise that drinking is still allowed where it is permitted, such as in bars and pubs.

"The object is to allow people to enjoy themselves without being confronted by intoxicated individuals in the street."

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Children's survey reveals fears over adult drunkeness

A THIRD of children have admitted to feeling scared when they see adults drinking alcohol, according to a new report, *writes Marijke Cox*. The shocking findings – shown on CBBC's Newsround after a study by children's research specialist Childwise – also revealed half of youngsters had seen their parents drunk.

But more worrying was the 47 per cent of children who said they were "not bothered" when they saw adults drinking, suggesting the UK's booze culture had become the norm.

Part of the research was carried out in Kent, using a survey to question youngsters about adult alcohol consumption.

Rosemary Duff, research director at Childwise, told KOS Media parents needed to start listening to their children's concerns. Ms Duff said: "Three per cent of children said they saw their parents drunk several times a week. This may not sound much, but it's the equivalent of a child in every class at school on average.

Also, when asked what they would do if they were worried about someone's drinking, eight per cent would try to cover it up.

"Children's biggest worry about drinking relates to possible health problems, followed by fighting and violent behaviour."

The survey, commissioned by Newsround, asked 1,234 young people aged between 10-14 about their views on alcohol. Almost three-quarters said their parents drank, with 60 per cent of the children saying they would drink when they are older. Of the 80 per cent who had seen adults drinking, a fifth admitted it had made adults angry and aggressive, with others saying it made them act silly.

The report, which was for the Living With Alcohol Newsround Special on Monday, aimed to get a better understanding of how children perceived adults drinking. The programme highlighted three stories of children who were affected by their parents' relationships with alcohol.

Damian Kavanagh, controller of CBBC, said "Alcohol is present in the lives of most of our audience in one way or another, yet it is something they may not feel confident talking about. Children in this Newsround special talk about the impact of adults drinking on their lives.

Talking about their own experiences, they provide insight and can help other children have the confidence to ask questions."

In Kent, some 56 per cent of children on the protection register are thought to be affected by parents' substance misuse. It has led to officials launching the Hidden Harm Strategy 2010-13 to tackle the effect parent or carer substance abuse has on children.

Kent County Council and the Children's Trust drew up the three-year plan. It looks to support youngsters by giving them a safe and secure home, providing extra help and listening to their concerns.

Gaps within service provision and increased awareness are also being worked on. Another three-year document, by the Kent Action on Alcohol Steering Group at KCC, was launched at the beginning of June, outlining how agencies can work together to stop the problems created by binge-drinking and alcoholism.

Some 200,000 "hazardous and harmful" drinkers live in Kent – with 11 per cent of males and 5.5 per cent of females exceeding the weekly recommended amount.

• View the Hidden Harm Strategy 2010-13, at www.kent.gov.uk.

Cutting the tobacco death toll

UP TO 2,000 people a year die in Kent from the effects of smoking and the county council wants to cut those numbers by helping more smokers quit, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

It is three years since new laws banned smoking in places such as pubs, restaurants and the workplace. Now Kent County Council wants to keep the momentum going by showing more people they can beat the weed. Officials say smoking is the single biggest cause of preventable death in the county.

Statistics show the less well-off are more likely to smoke – despite the high cost of cigarettes – and have a lower life expectancy. It costs Kent businesses about £215 million in sick days and smoking breaks, and the NHS receives more than 10,000 smoking-related hospital admissions each year, costing in excess of £24m.

Cabinet member for public health Cllr Alan Marsh, said: "We've got to stop the habit before it starts, so targeting children and young people is the way to go. Young people are able to appreciate the ramifications of tobacco.

"More long-term smokers are almost impossible to convince."

The Kent Alliance on Smoking and Health has launched an initiative called Towards a Smokefree Generation.

It is a commitment to change the culture of how we tackle smoking and is supported by KCC, district and borough councils, the NHS, Kent Police and Kent Fire and Rescue Service.

The plan is to help cut smoking by focusing on six key areas.

They include more action to stop children buying cigarettes, better education in schools on the dangers including second-hand smoke, and attempts to break the chain of peer pressure.

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Remembering the sacrifices of 'The Few' on 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain

By JANE CONNOLLY
jane.connolly@kosmedia.co.uk

Picture: IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM, taken from A Dictionary of the Battle of Britain by Geoff Simpson

Scramble for the skies

THE courage of the Few will be remembered by the many on the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain.

On July 10, 1940, one of the most important battles in British history broke out, as the Royal Air Force strived to conquer the Luftwaffe and prevent a subsequent German invasion. The fighting raged in the skies above Kent into the autumn of that year, with 3,000 air crew – many from overseas – risking their lives to protect Britain, and many of those lives were lost.

On Sunday, July 11, the national Battle of Britain Memorial at Capel-le-Ferne will receive a Royal visit as the nation remembers the sacrifices made by those Few, immortalised by Winston Churchill's unforgettable speech of gratitude and praise.

The remaining battle veterans – now all in their late 80s and 90s – will be joined by HRH Prince Michael of Kent, patron of the Battle of Britain Memorial Trust, as they remember those historic four months that came to be seen as a crucial period in World War Two.

Local historian Robin Brooks, author of Kent and the Battle of Britain, believes it was the greatest aerial battle ever seen.

"We were up against a superior air force with twice the amount of aircraft," he said. "What we did have was quality of pilots and radar. Had we not had radar to give us early warning, it might have been a different story.

"That's why we must always remember those 'Few', because they saved this country from tyranny and oppression.

"Had we lost, Hitler's Operation Sea Lion – an invasion of the UK – would have gone ahead and had it been a land battle, we would have lost. Goering's intention was to clear the RAF from the skies to get ready for Operation Sea Lion, but he could not do it."

Determined to remove the threat from the air to make way for a land invasion, the Luftwaffe attacked shipping convoys in the Channel and radar towers, before turning its attention to airfields, cities and industrial centres. Biggin Hill airfield in west Kent played a crucial role as the RAF Spitfires and Hurricanes battled to control the skies.

Radar

"Biggin Hill was a main sector station, a controlling station for others around it," Mr Brooks explained. "When a raid was imminent, radar plotters would send a message to Bentley Priory in London, the headquarters of Fighter Command, and a message would then be sent to the controlling stations to scramble. The radar would have picked the German planes up just off the French coast, so the pilots had five or six minutes to scramble and get the planes in the air to attack the enemy."

While brave young men fought for their country and their lives high above Kent and the South East, civilian life had to continue down below. But as Mr Brooks found out while researching his book, living in the shadow of a ferocious battle for their future was not easy.

"For the youngsters, that period was an exciting time because they could go around picking up shell cases and treating it as a real adventure, with the dogfights going on in the sky," he said. "But for the adults, it was an extremely trying time because they never knew what was going to happen.

"German and British aircraft would crash all over Kent and they could come down anywhere, on your house or a house down the road. They had shelters but even so, it was a traumatic time. Maidstone did catch it quite badly. Many dogfights took place over Kent and the county was nicknamed Hellfire Corner, because it took the brunt of it."

Geoff Simpson, author of A Dictionary of the Battle of Britain, agrees that life was perilous for civilians as well as airmen during those vital few months. Coming so soon after the mass evacuation of Allied troops from the beaches of Dunkirk in May and June, 1940, the significance of the aerial battle was not lost on an anxious population.

"I think there was a considerable view amongst ordinary people that invasion was a distinct possibility," he said. "They had been warned by the Government that possibility existed and people in Kent were on the frontline. They saw the German attacks and the bombs falling. If you were in Kent in the summer of 1940, you were very much aware of the danger."

Despite the frightening prospect of the RAF losing control of British skies and paving the way for an invasion, Mr Simpson found that morale was higher than might be expected.

"Talking to people who were there about it, there was a lot of confidence that somehow Britain would muddle through," he said. "The population was certainly inspired to some extent by the speeches of Winston Churchill, after he became Prime Minister in May, 1940.

"People have lots of views about Churchill, but he did inspire people. Most people realised there were tough times ahead. Perhaps they feared an invasion, but they showed confidence.

"When I spoke to airmen who fought in the battle, I found out they'd thought it was a damn cheek that the Germans were coming over to our country and they had to be stopped. They saw it in both micro and macro terms."

As the country commemorates the start of arguably the most emotive battle in British history, Mr Simpson hopes the legacy of those brave airmen and those who supported them will never be forgotten.

"I'm encouraged by the number of young people who do know about the Battle of Britain and would like to learn more," he said. "It was a turning point in British history and could have led to a German invasion.

"You could argue that Germany would have suffered its own Dunkirk and it might not have been a permanent invasion, but a lot of damage would have been done and people would have been subjected to a German occupation. It was a time when our history, as we know it, could conceivably have taken a massive turn and people should know about it."

Kent & the Battle of Britain by Robin Brooks is published by Countryside Books and priced at £12.99. A Dictionary of the Battle of Britain by Geoff Simpson is published by Halsgrove, in association with the Battle of Britain Memorial Trust, and costs £19.99.

HISTORIC: Books retell the crucial fight for aerial supremacy over Kent's skies

ON TARGET: A Spitfire closes in for the kill

DIRECT HIT: Bomb damage to the Foresters Arms pub in Maidstone, September 27, 1940

Taken from Kent & The Battle of Britain by Robin J Brooks

HEROES: No 32 Squadron at Biggin Hill, July 1940 – PO Pniak and PO Wlasndwalski (front row, right and centre) were Polish airmen who joined the squadron. Picture: RAF BIGGIN HILL

BATTLE OF BRITAIN MEMORIAL TRUST 70TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION

- The event will be held at the Battle of Britain Memorial at Capel-le-Ferne on Sunday, starting at noon with a performance by the Kent Wing ATC Band.
- At 1.15pm the Central Band of the Royal Air Force, followed by cadets, standards and banners, the Battle of Britain veterans and the Silk Ensign of the Royal Air Force, paraded by the Queen's Colour Squadron.
- HRH Prince Michael of Kent GCVO, Patron of the Battle of Britain Memorial Trust, will take the General Salute at 1.30pm and there will be a flypast by a Hurricane, Lancaster and Spitfire of the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight.
- The welcome address, service of commemoration and laying of the wreaths will be followed by the unveiling of a plinth inscribed with a poem. Our Wall was written by Flight Lieutenant William Walker AE, of 616 Squadron Spitfires, who will also read the poem.
- At 3pm a Spitfire and Hurricane from the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight will give a flying display and the event concludes with a sunset ceremony at 4.15pm.
- The Battle of Britain Memorial Trust has launched a new appeal to raise £650,000 to build a learning centre at the Capel-le-Ferne site. To find out more visit www.battleofbritainmemorial.org.

AIRFIELD DEFENCE: Gunners of the 90th AA Regiment deployed at Biggin Hill
From Kent & The Battle of Britain by Robin J Brooks

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Join in the fun and games like the Strawberry Sniff Out and Pin the tail on Bullseye, take part in the Playroom Parade, enjoy refreshments and party bags packed with Toy Story 3 goodies and a number of interactive games and giveaways.

Everyone has the chance to join in the fun at the Disney Store from July 10-August 14 with free Toy Story 3 events. Check out disney-store.co.uk/toystory for more details.

To enter this great competition, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Toy Story 3 Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is July 20, 2010.

• **QUESTION: What dates are the Toy Story events taking place?**

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If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry. Age restriction is 5-11 years old, refreshments is party food (not hot food) and the prize is to be taken at a mutually convenient time.

Ignore border force cutback rumours, says minister Green

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

RUMOURS that a planned border police force will be scrapped before it has even begun have been dismissed by immigration minister Damian Green.

A report in the national press speculated that the project would be one of the first to go if the Home Office was asked to deliver 40 per cent cuts, as has been threatened by Chancellor George Osborne.

The proposed new force – announced during the Queen's Speech in May – would be dedicated to improving immigration controls and cracking down on the trafficking of people, weapons and drugs.

Ashford Conservative MP Mr Green told KOS Media it was far too early to predict what might be lost in the forthcoming cuts.

He added: "The various government departments have been asked [by Mr Osborne] to illustrate what would happen if we were asked to make cuts of 40 per cent.

DAMIAN GREEN: Early days

"But as [transport secretary] Philip Hammond has said – and he has very good knowledge of the Treasury – it is unlikely that any department will be asked to make those sorts of cuts.

"There's no substance in the rumours [about the border police] because it's way too early in the process to speculate for anything in the department.

"The force is a commitment made in the coalition agreement, so it's vitally important that it's not cut."

Currently, immigration controls are in place in Kent, France and Belgium through the UK Border Agency. The Port of Dover also has its own 60-strong police force, which is privately funded by Dover Harbour Board to monitor the harbour, dock and pier.

Mr Green told KOS Media in May there needed to be a greater emphasis on tackling international crime. He added: "The new police force would effectively combine powers available to the enforcement arm of the UK Border Agency.

"But it would be separate to the agency. It would be a separate national police force.

"Details are yet to be confirmed. This still has to go through Parliament so it will be another couple of years before it is set up."

Mr Osborne originally announced that almost all departments would endure real-term cuts of 25 per cent over four years.

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Village recruits join action hero Sean for war trilogy shoot

MOVIE action hero Sean Bean recruited villagers in St Margaret's to play the roles of crack commandos for his new film.

The Lord Of The Rings star was in the village near Dover, filming World War Two drama Age Of Heroes when the call went out for volunteers.

Surprised villagers found themselves rubbing shoulders with the Hollywood star after he dropped into a local bar.

Bean, co-star Danny Dyer and the film crew spent time with delighted locals in The Bay restaurant and bar at the White Cliffs Hotel in St Margaret's-at-Cliffe, where they were staying for the duration of the shoot.

Hotel staff were recruited as extras, along with players from Wallett's Court FC. They played the part of Special Forces operatives and were kitted out in period costume before shooting scenes at nearby Connaught Barracks, Dover.

Gavin Oakley, who owns the White Cliffs Hotel, said: "Staff and guests gave Sean, Danny and the team a very warm welcome. They were a great bunch and seemed to enjoy themselves."

Age Of Heroes, the first of a trilogy of war movies, tells the true story of the formation of 30 Commando Unit. The film is due for release on Friday, October 1, and two sequels are planned – Age Of Honour and Age Of Glory.

STAR: Sean Bean has been filming on the Kent coast

Boss of drugs gang is given an extra 14 years in prison

Network stretched across to Wales

LONGER TERM: Darren Quick, 44

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

A JAILED gang leader has been slapped with a further 14-year prison sentence for his part in an elaborate cross-country drugs network.

Darren Quick, 44, from Rochester, was one of eight men sentenced to a total of 79 years and eight months in prison last week, after he earlier pleaded guilty to conspiracy to provide class A drugs.

He was the head of a Kent gang that supplied cocaine to another group in the Swansea Valley area of south Wales, using a third gang in Bournemouth as a go-between.

Quick, who imported the drugs from abroad, is already serving a seven-and-a-half year sentence for possessing criminal property, transferring criminal money and money laundering.

Two other members of the Kent gang – Stephen Jarrett, 25, from Maidstone, and Norrie Hyde, 40, from Sittingbourne – are also serving two years each for drugs-related activities.

Matthew Horne, of the Serious Organised Crime Agency (Soca), said: "This investigation has taken apart a complex criminal operation which was bringing considerable harm to communities across the UK, and was led by individuals with the ability to export drugs and launder money around the world.

"Work is continuing to ensure the gang members can't profit from their crimes and any member of an organised crime gang can be sure that Soca will continue to use all the tools and partnership opportunities at our disposal to bring them down."

Money laundering

At its height, the drugs network is believed to have trafficked about half a tonne of cocaine – at times distributing up to 8kg every 10 days.

The investigation into its activities began in September, 2007, when Soca officers identified links between the supply of drugs in south Wales and individuals on the south coast of England.

They used covert surveillance to identify the key members of the network, and so far 28 people have been charged. Of these, 26 have been convicted or pleaded guilty. The other two are still awaiting trial.

Det Sgt Rob Haines, of Kent Police's serious and organised crime unit, said: "Kent Police has worked in conjunction with other law enforcement agencies to investigate an extensive money-laundering network in the South East.

"Officers conducted detailed inquiries and uncovered large sums of money being transferred through bank accounts and being moved between locations.

"Kent Police's serious and organised crime unit will seek and pursue those involved in the supply and distribution of controlled drugs, and those who launder their money."

Quick was first arrested along with Jarrett and Hyde back in December, 2008, when officers saw them acting suspiciously in a pub car park in Maidstone.

Inside Quick's grey Ford Mondeo was a bag containing £66,690 and a blue box containing £126,070.

Mining galas to dig up the past

A FESTIVAL recreating the traditional mining galas seen before Margaret Thatcher's closure of the pits is being held in memory of a once-thriving industry.

The two-day Kent Miners Festival will run from Sunday to Bank Holiday Monday, August 29-30, in Fowlmead Country Park, near Deal.

Chairman of the organising committee Gary Cox said the idea was to recreate the historic galas that were held in the pit towns and villages around Kent.

"We hope the festival instils community values in people, at the same time as remembering our mining heritage and having a fantastic free day out," he said.

A 17-year-old boy has been banned from owning or using a catapult for a year after he pleaded guilty to assaulting a community warden.

He was sentenced at West Kent Magistrates Court in Sevenoaks for assault occasioning actual bodily harm, after the incident on Wednesday, March 24, which took place in his home village.

The teenager, who lives in Westerham, was also sentenced to 120 hours of unpaid work, he must complete an anger management course, take part in a victim empathy programme and pay £100 in compensation as well as £85 in costs.

Four women in a boat

Seagals are rowing their way into the record books

BATTLING the elements for 2,010 miles in a tiny rowing boat would be most people's idea of a nightmare, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

And as for facing huge ships in some of the world's busiest shipping lanes or sharks bigger than your boat – many would by now have bolted at the first sight of land.

But for four brave women, dicing with danger has become part of their daily routine as they fight to prove their worth in a 138-year-old race once dominated by men.

The Virgin GB Row – previously the Anglo-American Boat Race – is a 2,010 nonstop, unassisted rowing race around Great Britain in some of the most treacherous waters in the world. It is deemed tougher than rowing the Pacific or Atlantic, and only one team has ever completed the course.

But this year, four women, including 24-year-old Laura Thomasson, from Kingsdown near Dover, have set their sights on the world record for being the first women to complete, or even take part in, the race.

Picture: onEdition

GIRL POWER: From left: Beverley Ashton, Angela Madsen, Belinda Kirk and Laura Thomasson are rowing around Britain

The Royal Navy Nurse, who is a rower and medic in the challenge, joined Beverley Ashton, from Oxfordshire, skipper Belinda Kirk, from Bristol, and Californian paraplegic Angela Madsen.

The team – known as the Seagals – have already completed some 1,500 gruelling miles in their 24ft boat Go Commando, with the finishing line firmly in sight.

And to make their success to date even sweeter, the male team they were racing dropped out on June 14, just two weeks after both teams set off from London.

Speaking about their experiences so far, Miss Thomasson said this week they faced their most dangerous situation while travelling along the north east coast, after being warned of a storm.

"At the time of anchoring, the water was fairly calm and it was hard to believe a storm was on its way, but we stayed put in our cove," she said. "But then we took the impact of 20ft waves that flooded the deck and also Bev's and my cabin."

Aside from the weather, Miss Thomasson said one of the hardest things to deal with was painful, swollen "claw hands" caused by continuous rowing. For some it has caused constant pain throughout their journey.

But special moments make it all seem worthwhile: "In the early hours of June 30, Angela and I spotted a fin on the horizon. Then, the arching back of a whale rolled out of the water 300 metres from our stern."

Money raised will go to Help for Heroes, which supports members of the Armed Forces who have been wounded in service.

The crew is unable to stop at ports, with food carried on board and the use of a special machine to make sea water drinkable.

To keep up-to-date with their progress visit www.gbrowchallenge.com/friends.php.

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Family tree research leads to memorial campaign for park fire victims

Granddaughter's fight for forgotten victims of inferno

LORI OSCHESFSKI: The picture behind Lori shows her grandfather, William Cheeseman

A CAMPAIGN has been started to build a permanent memorial to commemorate the victims of a horrific tragedy in 1929, when nine children and six adults were burned to death after a firemen's public display went terribly wrong, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

And the move has won the backing of the county's fire service.

For years, hundreds of spectators gathered for the annual Fireman's Wedding display that was part of a summer fair held in Gillingham Park, Medway.

But on July 11, 1929, it turned into an inferno that claimed 15 lives and mentally scarred many of those who witnesses the tragedy.

Today the victims' graves are uncared for with some already 'reclaimed' or reused, and the rest heading for the same fate. Dental hygienist Lori Oschesfski, 50, from Ontario, Canada, was tracing her family tree when she came across the story.

She said: "Upon discovering the Gillingham Park tragedy while researching my grandfather's family history and finding that his 12-year-old nephew, Eric Edward Cheeseman, had died in the fire, I was compelled to find out more about the tragedy and the people involved.

"A memorial and restoration of the graves is important. It will not only represent the memory of the six men and nine boys who perished, but also pay respects to those who witnessed this tragedy and the families and friends of these 15 victims who carried – and still carry – this in their hearts and memories.

"Sadly, this tragedy has been almost forgotten in the very community where it happened. The six men who died were all respected community members in the Medway towns, three of them dedicated firemen. The nine children were innocent and had their lives cut short. Not one of these people who perished thought of themselves. Fireman Tabrett and Fireman Cokayne gave their lives freely, attempting to save others. This is a historic event in the community that must not be forgotten."

She added: "The 81st anniversary is upon us this weekend. I need help to make sure another year does not go by without this event being remembered."

Lori said an online petition and Facebook page have been launched to back her calls for a memorial and for the remaining graves to be maintained by Medway Council.

The deaths were due to an appalling set of circumstances at the fair, which over two days every year raised money for St Bartholomew's Hospital. As a finale, firemen were to 'rescue' people from a burning building. The daring scenario starts with a couple getting married and going to the house with guest for a reception.

SAD DUTY: Funeral procession attended by firemen after the Gillingham Park tragedy

The three-storey 'building' was cobbled together on site with wooden beams for the frame and tarpaulin for walls.

It was rigged to catch fire and while the guests called for help, the firemen would rush in and save the day. Once everyone was clear, a real fire was triggered and the house would burn down.

But the flammable liquids were triggered too early and spectators were confronted with the horror of many of the children and adults inside burning or jumping to their deaths. A website dedicated to the incident reports: "The fire fiercely shot upwards blocking all the exits and trapping 13 people inside – nine of them children, young boys between the ages of 10 and 13.

VICTIM: Eric Cheeseman

Desperate

"At the first sight of the flames, the spectators, not realising the fire was real, laughed and applauded as the boys cried out desperately for their lives. The fire brigade realising at once the fire was real, leapt into action. The crowd applauded more, still thinking this was part of the show.

"Little six-year-old Molly Cheesman, sister of Eric Edward Cheesman – a Navy cadet inside the house – and her mother Elizabeth were in the crowd.

"It was Molly's frantic and desperate screams which first alerted spectators that something had gone horribly wrong. 'Eric's burning, Eric's burning' was her cry. Others in the crowd only realised the horror unfolding in front of them when they saw figures leaping from the building in flames.

"A searchlight was shone on to the building and people saw two of the boys leap off the building. Eyewitnesses, even 40 years later, vividly recalled the horrific sight of a burned body of a boy, half hanging over the edge of the roof, illuminated by the searchlight.

DEATH TRAP: The 'house' after the blaze

"Olive Searles saw her 10-year-old son, Leonard, throw up his arms and die amid the flames. 'I know he's gone, I know he's gone' were her cries.

"Mable Mitchell and her five-year-old daughter, Vera, both witnessed Vera's father, Ronald, in flames, jump from the burning structure and run, burning, to a trough of water and plunge into it. He died an agonising death 30 hours later in hospital.

"Lottie Brunning watched as her only child, 12-year-old David, perished in the fire. Mrs Sindon, a widow, watched as her son, 11-year-old Ivor, scream for help before slipping back into the fire which claimed his life.

"Gordon Winn raced to the park upon hearing that his 13-year-old son, Leonard, had been injured: 'My little boy, his clothes burnt and still smouldering, lay on the ground. The poor little fellow could hardly see. He was terribly burned.

"'I lifted him gently and placed him in my car, then raced along the road to the hospital. All through the night I sat by his bedside. He was so brave – oh so brave.'

"In agony and blinded by his burns, Leonard asked his father to sit on his bed beside him. This brave little boy could only think of the others: 'Daddy, how are the other boys?' he asked. 'Did they get away?'

"Concern for the others would occupy his thoughts right up until the moment of his death the following morning at 4.45am."

FORLORN: Site of fire victims' graves today

Lori said of her campaign: "There is certainly no intention of marring the image of Britain's firefighters who, like firefighters around the world, provide an essential service that has saved countless lives.

"Acknowledging such a tragic event should not negatively reflect on the fire service. Accepting responsibility for our mistakes is honourable and should always be the right thing to do. I would ask you to close your eyes for a moment and place yourself in the crowd at the fair in 1929. Imagine being one of the many who were laughing at the fire – then realising you were applauding children as they were burning and dying.

"It would also be a great gesture if a memorial could be erected in the cemetery as a fitting reminder of the lives of those poor victims. It would be shameful if it was forgotten. We must keep their memory alive.

"As you can imagine, discovering such a tragic incident involving a past family member was distressing, to say the least.

"However, even more distressing was finding out that this terrible event is in danger of being forgotten and that the gravestones of those who died are in such disrepair there is a possibility of them being removed.

Fateful day

"I strongly believe this should not be allowed to be swept under the carpet."

The campaign has won the backing from Kent Fire and Rescue Service after KOS Media brought it to their attention.

Charlie Hendry, the chief fire officer and chief executive of Kent Fire and Rescue Service, said: "This was a sad day for Gillingham and the whole county.

"As serving firefighters we are always deeply saddened by the loss of children's lives and those of firefighters. The tragedy of that fateful day should be remembered and we support the campaign for a memorial to commemorate those who were lost."

A spokesman for Medway Council said: "The Gillingham Park fire was an incredibly tragic event that affected the lives of many people in Medway. In respect of this, we are planning on carrying out maintenance and upkeep of the graves in the coming months.

"In addition, we have been working alongside Friends of Gillingham Park to plan future improvements and we will look into whether this will include provision for a memorial to be put in place."

LETTERS

LETTER OF THE WEEK

Join my salute to heroic Few

July 10 marks the 70th anniversary of the acknowledged start of the Battle of Britain. Surviving pilots who fought in this crucial battle must now be in their late 80s and 90s – The Few are most definitely now fewer.

There can be no more than 100 survivors – is this not a suitable occasion to honour them?

I appreciate the 'official' start date of the battle is no more than notional and there was fierce air fighting before July 10 and after the official end date of October 31, 1940. Also that there are likely to be surviving pilots from Bomber and Coastal Commands, the Fleet Air Arm, as well as the ground crews and members of the Royal Observer Corps – all of whom contributed to the final outcome and should be honoured.

Even if all these are included, I doubt they are many in total. So what might be done? As much of the conflict took place over our county, my suggestion would be for the award of a special Kent Invicta Medal, perhaps funded by Kent businesses through chambers of commerce and similar organisations, as well as public subscription from Kentish Men and Men of Kent. If we need a precedent, look no further than across the Channel to the French, who have on special occasions awarded their Legion d'honneur to our surviving veterans. What do others think?

Colin P Dunham, Welling

City status loss still rankles

I was outraged to read that Cllr Rodney Chambers is bidding for city status for Medway and not for Rochester. Surely he should be attempting to make amends for the fact that Rochester only lost its city status because the council forgot to re-apply.

But no, 12 years later that has all been forgotten and Medway is being put up for city status. It's a disgrace. I believe that as Medway Council demonstrated such incompetence 12 years ago, the matter should be taken out of its hands.

A referendum should be held allowing people to choose whether Rochester or Medway should apply for city status. Cllr Chambers is still not getting the message: his campaign should be for Rochester to be reinstated as a city.

It is Rochester that has the cathedral and the castle, not Medway. And it was Medway Council that lost the rarely bestowed city status. Perhaps we should expect this underhand approach – isn't this how we got Medway Council in the first place?

Just once, it would be nice if the council was a little less presumptuous and asked residents what they wanted, instead of telling them and then asking for support.

Sandra Jeffery, by email

OPINION: CHALKED OFF BY POLITICS

Independent education adviser **PETER J READ** considers the schools left out in the cold by the coalition's purge of the Building Schools for the Future programme

HEADTEACHERS at 28 Kent secondary schools, eight special schools and four referral centres were devastated on Monday to learn that their rebuilds under the Building Schools for the Future scheme had been scrapped.

A vast number of hours spent by heads and governors in negotiating with architects and officials has been wasted. The many hours of planning by staff to develop new methods for teaching and learning using opportunities created by purpose-designed premises will be consigned to the scrapheap.

Some of the special schools are required to admit children with complex physical and learning needs, but will now find it impossible to cater for them unless alternative funding can be found.

Also spare a thought for the officers who have worked tirelessly through a mass of red tape to try to ensure the best for our schools.

For the following schools in Thanet: Clarendon House Grammar, Chatham House Grammar, Foreland Special, Hartsdown Technology College, Hereson, Laleham Gap (Special), Northwood Centre, St Anthony's (Special), Stone Bay (Special) and Ursuline College; and in Gravesend: Gravesend Boys and Girls Grammars, Meopham, and St George's CofE; along with Portal House (Special) in Dover, the shock was so much greater.

In these schools, building plans have nearly all been finalised and construction was due to begin. They will now have to compete for students with the gleaming new premises of the schools that have benefited from BSF.

Hartsdown is not alone in Thanet in having poor buildings – and now little prospect of these being inproved. Eight newer academies, already operational or in the planning stage and whose replacement buildings have not begun (at an average cost of some 40 per cent more than mainstream schools) are to have any plans reviewed.

It would, however, be bizarre if many of these were upheld, as new academies converting from mainstream schools join them on an equal basis in September, with no prospect of new buildings.

This is a sorry end to a project that promised so much. However, it is important to realise what has been achieved. KCC leader Paul Carter has taken a personal interest in attracting maximum capital expenditure to Kent, which historically had low levels of investment in school buildings.

His vision means we now have new schools worth half a billion pounds, either completed or in construction. These include all other secondary and special schools in Gravesham and Thanet through BSF (most close to completion), nine academies, and six secondary schools built under separate PFI funding. Parents in many parts of Kent will be aware of other investments in new or replacement buildings for schools of all types. Whatever the future holds, these remain and nearly 20 per cent of secondary schools will have been completely or substantially rebuilt – an impressive record.

I saw the complications of BSF as a governor of Ifield Special School, the first Kent school to be completed with BSF funding. Because of the nature of our project, bureaucracy was mainly limited to agreeing contracts for ICT equipment and services.

Three governors spent many hours grappling with details of complex documents and requirements to meet impossible deadlines (all unpaid volunteers). The head and senior staff spent much more time. However, we did have the satisfaction of seeing our work come to completion.

What about those governors who see their work junked? Sadly, a few will walk away in disgust, never to return. What about children whose education has suffered, as heads and staff have had periods of absence dealing with BSF issues?

That cannot be restored. It would have been good to see Michael Gove acknowledge this sacrifice. Whether this purge was necessary is for others to pronounce upon. I only know it must be wrong to put part of the proceeds towards persuading mainstream schools to become academies themselves, with another portion going to 'free schools' that will often be set up to suit those with little interest in the education of the majority.

• ***Peter J Read – www.kentadvice.co.uk.***

KOS media COMMENT

It's tougher than ever at the top

THERE surely can never have been a worse time to become either the Chief Constable of Kent Police or group managing director at Kent County Council.

Both Ian Learmonth and Katherine Kerswell are going to have to make some horrible decisions in the near future – and all because mistakes made by people from outside their respective organisations have left them with ever-shrinking resources to draw from.

They will have to find millions of pounds in savings over the next few years, and both come to Kent at a time when the public sector is under more pressure than ever.

But let's not be fooled into thinking these two newcomers do not know what they are doing. Both have extensive experience in delivering wholesale change and perhaps that's just what Kent Police and KCC need.

There really is nothing to lose for either Mr Learmonth or Mrs Kerswell.

If they do well, they will be praised from far and wide. If they don't, they can always blame those who created this financial mess in the first place.

Of course, we hope there will be no need for the latter and wish both of Kent's newest additions the very best of luck.

Sit back and enjoy the beautiful game

ENGLAND may already have been sent packing, but that won't stop millions of football fans from settling in front of the television to watch the World Cup final on Sunday night.

Whereas the Three Lions went out with less of a roar and more a whimpering miaow, Spain and the Netherlands have both impressed with their dominance and shown that the European nations are still a major force on the international scene.

Here's hoping this mouthwatering showdown between two football superpowers will help England boss Fabio Capello work out where it all went so badly wrong.

So impressed by youngsters

The annual Try Angle Awards are a chance for Medway to cheer the efforts of our young people – and this year's event was no exception. Last week I attended the awards at the Central Theatre, Chatham, with Cllr Julie Shaw and was impressed with the brilliant performances and entertainment.

Even without the awards, it was a great night out. However, the awards were a chance to highlight the hard work of our young people, especially the work they do in the community.

These people are exceptional and deserved to be rewarded for their care and selfless actions, but it always serves as reminder that this is representative of so many young people. Many of the stories were genuinely affecting and I felt proud of what the winners had achieved.

Cllr Vince Maple, Medway Council

If it's so cushy, try it yourself

I was incensed by the letter from C Webb about the "cushy time" teachers have, in his view. He obviously was never a teacher, nor lived with one. My children said they would never become teachers because of the piles of exercise books coming home each evening and the number of times they had to entertain themselves because of that.

There was a very mild reply from one reader, but I wish to make a few points clear. When I started as a technical college lecturer I was told: "Neighbours will see you having long holidays and half days off; they won't see you coming home at 10pm after teaching evening classes. They won't see you spending hours each evening preparing for the next day; when you start it takes an hour to prepare an hour's lecture.

"They won't realise you spend at least half of each weekend marking and preparing. They won't notice you going into college in the 'holidays'."

The same applies to primary and secondary school teachers. I taught in both and although the children work a short day in the eyes of the public, teachers do not.

Usually arriving at 8am and leaving about 4.30pm if they are lucky, teachers are working all day. Yes, there's a lunch break, as every worker should have. As for a coffee break, there's nearly always a child to see, or something to prepare for the next lesson.

Some schools will not allow a cup of coffee to be taken into the classroom. As for an afternoon break, not where I taught.

At least once a week, a teacher is on duty at breaktime. There's hardly time to go to the loo – and you can't just leave a class of 30 children if you need to use the lavatory. You can't leave the children to their own devices.

If you're feeling under the weather, you can't hide behind a computer and hope nobody notices you're not doing much.

You can't make telephone calls or receive them while teaching, you can't vary your hours or days if you want to; for example, to attend a funeral, unless it's a close family member. And you have to take your holidays during the peak season. A teacher can't just ring in and say you'll be a few minutes late, not like other workers. I stopped making 9am appointments at the dentist, doctor and hairdresser, having been kept waiting.

One shop in our High Street sometimes has queues outside well after 9am. On top of all that, the job is stressful. How many teachers nowadays work right up to retirement age?

They don't get bonuses, company cars, golden handshakes, or a pension until they are pensionable age.

The problem is, other people's conception of teachers stems from their memories of when they were pupils themselves.

CW Prigmore, New Romney

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400

For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

ALE MAGAR
Miking Bahadur Ale Magar was born on the 25th June 2010. Son to Jhak and Sumitra and brother to Meek.

BARTLETT
David and Charlene of Ash are proud to announce the birth of their son, Rhys David Kevin Bartlett, on 21st June 2010.

DAMPIER
Finley Aiden Dampier born on 23rd June 2010, weighing 5lb 9oz, son to Jaclyn and Scott, brother to Kieran.

DIMMOCK
Kelly and Paul welcome their beautiful baby girl Summer Jean, born on 20th May 2010, weighing 7lbs 13ozs.

ELLIS
Matthew and Karen celebrate the birth of their beautiful daughter Poppy May, born on the 14th June 2010, weighing 6lb 5oz.

HALLSWORTH
Joseph Giovanni born on 21st June 2010 weighing 9lbs 3ozs. Son to Zane and Lucia Hallsworth of Sittingbourne. You are the miracle who we will love and treasure forever.

HENLEY-JONES
Darryl and Melissa celebrate the birth of their son Aiden Luke Henley-Jones on 28th June 2010, weighing 7lbs 4oz.

HUMPHRIES
Alfie Boris Humphries was born on 15th June 2010, weighing 8lb 8oz. A son for Kerry Humphries of Folkestone.

HUTCHINS-STURLEY
Proud parents Stephanie and Robin are pleased to announce the birth of their baby daughter Arabella born on 25th June 2010.

JAMIESON
Megan Laura Jamieson born on 19th June 2010. Daughter to David and Jenny in Dover. A sister for Oliver.

JOHNSON
Gerard and Carmilla are proud to announce the birth of their beautiful baby daughter, Summer Jessica Johnson, born on the 23rd May, 2010, weighing 7lb 13oz.

JONES
Denise and Lee are pleased to announce the birth of their son Olly on 26th June 2010.

PARKINSON
George born on 23rd June 2010, weighing 8lb 11oz. Son to Faye and Dominic in East Malling.

PRIOR
William David born 17th June 2010 weighing 6lb 10oz. Mummy and Daddy will always love you.

SCHOFIELD
Samantha and Stuart Schofield celebrate the birth of their daughter Olivia Donna Schofield on 24th June 2010.

SMALL
Gracie born on 2nd June 2010, weighing 7lb 8oz. Daughter to Jason and Debbie of Whitstable.

SMITH
Zachary Peter born on 16th June 2010, weighing 7lbs 4ozs. Son to Kerrie and Ben in Ashford.

WEBBER
Callum Matthew born on 25th June 2010, weighing 9lbs 5ozs, son to James and Elizabeth Webber.

DEATHS

DUFF
Cyril Duff of Folkestone passed away on 28th June 2010, aged 81. Greatly missed by his family, Jean, Ian, Jan and Lois.

MADDAFORD
Josephine Ann Maddaford passed away peacefully after a long illness, on 27th June 2010, aged 84. All enquiries to Chittendens Funeral Directors.

STUDD
Elizabeth Josephine Parry Studd, known as Jose Studd, died on 29th June 2010 at the Halliwell Nursing Home, Tunbridge Wells. Service of cremation was held at the Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on Friday 9th July.

WALL
Tom, loving husband, father and grandfather. Rest in Peace. Always loved and always in our hearts, Vikki and family.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

Scrutiny powers are curtailed

Mike Eddy is right to call for more scrutiny of Government cuts and how they affect Kent.

However, he may not be aware that since Labour was reduced to two county councillors, the Conservatives have further restricted the rights of councillors to scrutinise.

Cabinet scrutiny is the only committee chaired by the opposition and is now only permitted to probe cabinet reports or a decision made by a cabinet member.

The power to investigate the hundreds of decisions made by officers has been removed from the committee and given to the newly-formed scrutiny board, which is chaired by a Conservative.

At the April 1 county council meeting, the Conservatives talked out the single agenda item which the Liberal Democrats are allowed (a motion for time-limited debate), which was to ensure greater disclosure to the public of what their money is being spent on, by publishing all payments over £1,000.

Of course, Cllr Eddy is conveniently forgetting that when he led the opposition, he also did not have the power to scrutinise Government spending plans.

Had he done so, we would of course have been able to question the mess his Labour government made of our economy, which has left others with painful decisions to make in order to clean it up.

Cllr Trudy Dean, Lib Dem group leader and chair of cabinet scrutiny committee, KCC

Eurozone bailout under challenge

It has been said that the eurozone bailout fund breaches European Union law and we may not have to contribute to saving the other economically weak countries after all, subject to the decision of the German constitutional court.

A challenge has been made to the court as to the legality of the eurozone bailout package. A new study conducted by the German think-tank Centrum für Europäische Politik claims the public has been deceived on several points with regards to the package, arguing the aid scheme would not be limited to three years, but would be installed indefinitely.

The author of the study, Marcell Jeck, is quoted saying that "the public has been assured the EU cannot borrow above a maximum of 60 billion euros. In the legal text no such regulation can be found". In addition to the 60bn euro package, EU leaders have also agreed to create a 440bn euro fund for any member state needing a bailout.

The study adds that the EU has unjustly invoked a treaty clause designed for "exceptional circumstances" as a legal base for the bailout fund and that the European Parliament was not consulted, which amounts to a breach of EU law. The report also suggests the bailout package does not satisfy the terms of the German constitutional court's previous rulings, as it does not provide a strong enough role for the German parliament in approving aid.

I wonder what Cameron and Clegg will say about this?

Victor Webb, Rusthall, Tunbridge Wells

RSPCA stretched by cruel summer

We would like to ask for your readers' help. Calls to the RSPCA's 24-hour cruelty telephone line have almost doubled in six months, and the charity is asking people to show patience as it prioritises the workload.

Although the number of calls to the 0300 1234 999 helpline increases each year during persistently mild and dry weather and longer daylight hours, this summer the RSPCA is facing unprecedented demand.

Although we are doing all we can to answer as many calls as possible, exceptionally high call volumes mean the charity will be unable to answer advice calls during the evenings and weekends. We will nevertheless be dealing with emergency calls as usual – 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A similar system operated during the summer of 2004. Dogs in hot cars, animals wounded in airgun incidents or animals dumped in the holidays all increase during the summer months and must be a priority for the charity.

The RSPCA has fewer than 500 frontline staff for the whole of England and Wales who deal with calls and investigations and their workload during this time increases dramatically. We thank you for your understanding at this busy time.

Sally Bruce, RSPCA regional manager

Virus vigilance can be a real life-saver

I would like to remind people to be vigilant to the signs and symptoms of viral meningitis as temperatures continue to soar this summer. Cases of the disease are known to peak during hot weather. Although viral meningitis isn't life threatening, it can take people a long time to recover and there is no vaccine to prevent it.

I was struck down by a rare form of viral meningitis in September, 2005.

It came on very suddenly and at first I though I'd had a stroke as I couldn't feel the left side of my body. Then violent headaches started and I started to drift in and out of consciousness.

Doctors diagnosed meningoencephalitis – a rare form of viral meningitis which causes inflammation of the brain. I spent six weeks in hospital and needed three months off work to recover.

It left me struggling with co-ordination and speech, fearing my acting days would be over.

Having had meningitis myself, I know what people go through with it and also what they constantly go through after having had it, which is why I'm supporting Meningitis UK and urging people to be extra alert at this time of year.

The initial symptoms are the same as bacterial meningitis, its more dangerous counterpart which can kill in under four hours. Meningitis UK advises people to look out for a headache, stiff neck, dislike of bright light, fever, feeling sick, confusion and drowsiness, diarrhoea and aching joints.

Treatment is usually rest and painkillers and most people make a full recovery without being admitted to hospital. But, in a small number of cases, people who have suffered from viral meningitis may experience after-effects such as headaches, exhaustion, deafness, ringing in the ear), memory loss, lack of co-ordination or confusion.

I urge readers to request a symptoms information pack, or make a donation to the Search 4 a Vaccine Campaign, by calling Meningitis UK on 0117 373 7373 or visiting www.meningitisuk.org.

Joe Swash, actor and Meningitis UK patron

Heartfelt thanks from Lorraine

I am writing to thank all those who put their hands on their hearts and signed up to volunteer with the British Heart Foundation (BHF) last month.

For the second year running, the campaign has been a resounding success and the BHF couldn't have done it without the support of the community. Volunteers play a vital role in the life-saving work of the BHF and their dedication helps save and improve the lives of those affected by heart disease.

Readers can still sign up to the BHF and volunteer in whatever way they like, from placing collection boxes and volunteering in a BHF Shop to organising their own event, such as a coffee morning. Or if they already volunteer, they can enlist a family member or friend to give them a hand.

People only have to give the time they can afford – whether it's a regular day a week or a few hours a year. Whatever people choose to do, they'll be able to take pride in the fact they've taken time to help the charity's work in saving lives and fighting heart disease.

Giving a hand to the BHF is easy and fun as well as being extremely rewarding.

It's a great way to support the nation's heart charity. Find out more at bhf.org.uk/volunteer; email volunteer@bhf.org.uk; or call 0300 456 8353.

Lorraine Kelly, television presenter, on behalf of the British Heart Foundation

From computer screen to telly

With more people on the internet than ever before, why not buy your TV licence online?

Following new research showing that nearly 39 million people across the UK are now regular internet users – almost two million more than last year – we'd like to remind people in Kent how easy it is to buy a TV licence at the click of a button, online.

About 1.8 million people bought their TV licence online in the last year, and this number looks set to increase as more people start to use the internet regularly. The TV Licensing website is easy to use. You can buy a licence in minutes and keep your details up to date. Find out more by visiting www.tvlicensing.co.uk/info.

Of course, those who aren't online can still pay by direct debit, telephone, post, in person at one of 22,000 PayPoint outlets, or even by text. Call us on 0300 790 6112 to find the best method for you.

Ian Fannon, TV Licensing, London

Place your FREE ad:

By Phone call **FREE** on **0800 032 9100**

If you have a photo you're 6 times more likely to get responses! Simply text your solo picture along with your 6 digit mailbox number (space) 4 digit pin number under your photo, to 0779 366 6363. Or send by email to: support@jmediauk.co.uk with your Mailbox & pin number. For message collection call 0906 515 7114*

Get Photos! Ads with a 📷 symbol have a photo of the advertiser. Simply text **PIC397**(space)the advertisers mailbox number, and send to 88833*

HELP call **0844 800 1188** Mon - Fri 9 to 5 or email us at support@jmediauk.co.uk

yourkentdating

REPLYING to an ad:

By Phone call **0906 515 7112**

Follow the simple instructions, £1.50 per min.

By MOBILE to ads with a 📱 symbol, text **KOS** followed by the box number of the advertiser you wish to respond to & send to **78850*** **eg** KOS(space)123456(space)Hi saw your ad would like 2 know more about u. Then send to 78850. It's that easy! (£1.50 per message sent)

BROWSE through all ads incl. **NEW** advertisers Call: 0906 515 7112*

WOMEN seeking men

Guys Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT883 To : 65125 (T&C's below)

ATTRACTIVE feminine dark haired lady, 60, likes travel, cinema, dancing, conversation, GSOH, seeks N/S male to share similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335519**

ELVIRA 40's exotic South American beauty, loves theatre, dancing, interesting places, seeks generous well built male who would like some mutual pampering. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335559** 📱

MANDY 34, lovable, curvy, bubbly, long brown hair seeks unattached, loving male for some serious fun and passion. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335539** 📱

JANE 60, beautiful slim blonde blue eyed widow, friendly, easy and eager to please searching for fun and romance with tall, slim man. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335537** 📱

ROCK chic, 24, cheeky, curvy brunette, up for anything seeks hunky older guy for fun times and more. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335535** 📱

ANNIE 55, very feminine, curvy with short fair hair and green eyes, loves life seeking well built male who would like to chill out and cuddle up on the sofa. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335533** 📱

FEMALE likes holidays, ballet, reading, animals, seeks N/S male, under 70. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335437**

RETIRED female, new to area, likes art, music, concerts, theatre, seeks similar professional/retired male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379922** 📱

JAN 5ft 2ins, blonde hair, brown eyes, slim, 50's, nurse, likes pubs, nights in, wine, cooking, animals, seeks like-minded male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335065** 📱

MANDY 18, very pretty inexperienced young female, seeks seductive older male to tutor and spoil her. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335569** 📱

GEORGIE 45, curvy, tactile blonde, bubbly and chatty looking for broad-minded, fun loving, mature male. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335563** 📱

ALI 25, petite with long brown hair and blue eyes, happy personality, knows what she wants, looking for dishy older guy to sweep her off her feet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335561** 📱

DAWN 44, small outgoing blue eyed brunette, needing some male attention seeks male, who's not too tall for a casual, uncomplicated relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334825** 📱

PAULA 39, brown hair, hazel eyes, vivacious, great personality, knows what she wants seeks adventurous man. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334823** 📱

JENNY 31, gorgeous, outgoing party girl, blonde, blue eyed, great curves WLTM hunky male for some serious fun. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334821** 📱

JUDY 56, lovely, creative artistic and just that bit different, loves sunshine, outdoors, looking for new possibilities with quirky, dark haired male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334819** 📱

JACKIE 40's, stunning, slim, loves life and likes to look after herself, wants to live it to the full with the right male. It could be you. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334803** 📱

MARIA 48, likes country walks, trips, seeks caring male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379826**

WHITE South African Knight desired, late 30's-40's who is kind, caring, sensitive and knows how to area t a woman. Must likes cinema theatre, weekends away, concerts etc. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334303**

FUN loving, attractive, black female, slim, 38, 5ft 7ins, likes walks, reading, theatre, music, seeks genuine, caring, European gent to share laughter and life. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333815**

38YR old single mum, bubbly, curvy, seeks genuine guy for romance, good life and good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334777** 📱

BARBARA 48, slender fun loving divorcee, blonde hair, green eyes seeks slim athletic male to be her new love. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334801** 📱

SUE 46, lovely green eyed blonde, knows there must be more to life than work seeks tall intelligent guy to show her how to relax and have fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334799** 📱

KAY 37, beautiful, warm, friendly blonde, no ties, would love to get together with an attractive male who can sweep her off her feet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334797** 📱

LOVELY female, 55, 5ft 6ins, seeks male 53-59, 6ft and N/S. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334633**

ANNE 42, beautiful, loving and caring, always on the go, seeks tall, well built guy who can show her what she's missing for new experiences together. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334221** 📱

LINDA 52, gentle, sensitive and fun loving seeks tall attractive male with big personality for a tactile relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334219** 📱

ALI 5ft 2ins, red hair, blue eyes, GSOH, likes simple things in life, seeks male who can make her laugh. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334077** 📱 📷

RETIRED professional lady, 68, GSOH, varied interests, seeks N/S gent for socialising. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333993**

35YR old honest, caring, understanding female, 5ft 6ins, seeks nice, hardworking gent for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334495** 📱

REBECCA 45, 5ft 9ins, educated brunette, GSOH, seeks tall, intelligent, caring male with GSOH, 43-55 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379776** 📱

VIVACIOUS curvy brown eyed brunette, loving and affectionate would love to be pampered and spoilt by a tall, romantic male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334227** 📱

JEAN 53, stunning, young looking brunette seeks tall, trendy male to make days more fun and nights even better. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334225** 📱

DAMSEL in distress, Heather young looking 50, very attractive, been hurt in the past and seeking affectionate, younger male to rescue her. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334203** 📱

EXTROVERT slim, modern widow, loves dancing seeks tall, enthusiastic, young at heart male to share the good things in life, fun and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334201** 📱

MANDY 46, very loving, affectionate brunette, lots of lovely curves WLTM romantic, warm hearted male for a special relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334199** 📱

RACHEL 28, single mum, fun, outgoing, adventurous, seeks black/mixed race male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334123** 📱

BEAUTIFUL vivacious female seeks kind hearted, affectionate guy to come home and share relaxing evenings together. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333627** 📱

JUDY youthful slim nurse 45, no ties, can't wait to raise the temperature of a discreet, experienced, confident guy. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333625** 📱

KAREN 50, 5ft 2ins, medium build, young at heart, active, smoker, likes horses, no ties, seeks nice male for fun and friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379510** 📱

LOVELY chic free spirited green eyed blonde, feminine, seeks professional, romantic, well spoken male with a love of life for good times, fun and travel. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333525**

PAULETTE 63, shy, outgoing, long hair, green eyes, likes dogs, walks, seeks similar male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379482** 📱

TRACY 31, 5ft 1ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, curvy, bubbly, GSOH, 2 children, likes animals, seeks genuine, trustworthy, honest male, 35-50 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379552**

SANDRA 60, bubbly widow WLTM loving male who knows how to treat a lady for good conversation and relaxed fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333631** 📱

GEORGIE 45, cuddly bubbly blonde, seeks laid back guy to chill out, share adult conversation and relaxing no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333629** 📱

61YR old lady, medium build, widow, OHAC, likes music, countryside, gardening, seeks similar male, 60-65 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334455** 📱

FUN loving female, 47, kind, caring, honest, GSOH, likes meals out, pubs, cinema, cooking, seeks male, 39-49 for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334417** 📱

SUZANNE 50's, tall blonde, works hard, plays harder, lots to offer the right male, seeks confident man who thinks he could handle her. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334205** 📱

SEDUCTIVE saucy blue eyed blonde seeks happy go lucky male for lots of fun and attention. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332625** 📱

ATTRACTIVE slim, blonde female, young 48, 5ft 6ins, no ties, seeks outgoing, friendly male, 45-55 for friendship, hopefully LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379340**

JACKIE 32, attractive professional, very smart and feminine, long brown hair, seeks smart, confident, older male who knows how to treat a lady. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332607** 📱

ELAINE 51, petite, curvy, shy, sensitive and nicely wicked, looking to meet a well built guy for tactile, loving relationship. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332605** 📱

32YR old black single mum, curvy, caring, honest, fun loving, likes nights in/out, seeks honest, adventurous, fun loving male, 35-45 with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379506** 📱

FEMALE 46, slim, likes cooking, seeks tall, caring male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379498**

ANDREA 34, lovely, sensual with long dark hair seeks mature male to take a chance and share a romantic meal for two. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333607** 📱

FUN flirty rock chic, curvy size 12 seeks likeminded male to share special times and bring sunshine into her life. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333605** 📱

JILL stunning blue eyed blonde, sporty, devoted footie fan, seeks tall, active guy who's not too shy to try something a bit different. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333603** 📱

ANNA 43, sensual blue eyed blonde, slim and vivacious, loves to wine and dine seeks tall, dark male for good conversation, fun and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333601** 📱

SMART happy female, 5ft 6ins, likes documentaries, films, meals out, wine, conversation, seeks tall, professional gent for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332725** 📱

40YR old rock fan, likes animals, country walks, gigs, seeks kind male, 40-48 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333095** 📱

LADY 60's, slim, young minded, N/S, likes gardening, meals out, country walks, holidays, theatre, seeks male, 55-65. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332749**

LARGER 26yr old lady, dark hair, looking for anyone to make her laugh. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332721** 📱

HEATHER 36, tall blue eyed brunette, shy, but always up for a laugh, looking to let her hair down with a tall, romantic male. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332633** 📱

HAYLEY 22, bubbly blue eyed blonde, tattoos and piercings, loves to live life to the full, seeking exciting male, up for anything, for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332631** 📱

JANINE 43, stunning slim, blue eyed blonde WLTM tall male to get to know, share romantic candlelight dinners, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332627** 📱

KAREN 39, statuesque brunette, seeks very tall, well built male for uncomplicated relationship with a real woman. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332603** 📱

ELIZABETH 58, attractive, sensitive, caring, young outlook, seeks similar tactile guy to share good times, fun and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332601** 📱

BLACK female, N/S, 44, 5ft 5ins, likes cinema, cooking, seeks N/S white, kind, honest, loving male, 48-56 with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332979** 📱

SASKIA 43, stylish, very attractive with long blonde hair seeks attractive tall trendy guy for fun friendship with lots of TLC. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 331395** 📱

MARY 50, petite with green eyes and dark hair, lovely curves seeks bubbly outgoing male who is full of surprises to make and keep life and love interesting. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 330887** 📱

BEAUTIFUL long haired brunette, loves life, very friendly seeks lovely romantic, younger male with plenty of imagination for lots of kisses, cuddles and possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 330885** 📱

PAULA 40, vibrant, down to earth, loves the sun, will try anything once seeks similar sensual male for some fresh air fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 331405** 📱

KELLY 26, beautiful shapely brunette, likes wild nights out but prefers chillin in with a nice bottle wine, good conversation and intimate moments, seeks similar. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 330863** 📱

WINNIE small, sweet and full of love for life, seeks lively mature male to share TLC, romance, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 330859** 📱

JENNY 23, shapely, understanding brunette, loves nights out and quiet times in, seeks tall older male who is not too serious for fun times together without complications. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 330857** 📱

ANNE 46, slim, N/S, honest, reliable, seeks male, 42-50, N/S, slim-medium build. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 330029** 📱

CAROLE 55, young looking blonde, voluptuous, but not too much to handle! WLTM manly male who is up for some no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 330883** 📱

MEN seeking women

Ladies Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people. Send : CHAT883 To : 65125 (T&C's below)

DAVID 55, 5ft 4ins, slim, wheelchair guy, likes nights in/out, football, wheelchair sports, nights out, seeks Thai female, 40-65 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335459** 📱

ROMANTIC country man, young 50's, tactile, artistic, GSOH, likes meals out, films, classic cars, antiques, seeks attractive lady companion. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379906**

GENUINE male, 45, no ties, GSOH, sexy, honest, smoker, seeks nice female, any age/nationality/status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335099**

46YR old male, 6ft, always a mate never a partner, GSOH, down to earth, animal lover, likes a laugh, pubs, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379940** 📱

MARK 46, single dad, seeks female with no ties for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379938** 📱

JOHN young looking male, middle aged, N/S, self employed gardener, seeks female, 30-50 for friendship and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335495** 📱

CARING fit guy 48, brown hair, blue eyes, 5ft 9ins, seeks pretty, well spoken Sussex lady, 42 or younger for loving relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379816** 📱

STEVE mature guy 52, green eyes, GSOH, like music, nights in/out, seeks female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334981** 📱

ARE you 58 plus, not over the hill, me 55 will put the sparkle back in your life. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334967**

DEN 60, frustrated, seeks lady, any age for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334879**

YOUNG 52yr old male, attractive, well dressed, kind, romantic, easygoing, seeks slim, attractive female, 46-56 for a new beginning. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334771** 📱

EASYGOING male, 54, 5ft 11ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, N/S, GSOH, reliable, seeks likeminded female for relationship and TLC. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334167** 📱 📷

SLIM good looking male, seeks discreet sexy fun with female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334765** 📱

FUN loving Christian male, 70's, 5ft 7ins, honest, caring, likes walks, swimming, music, conversation, dark chocolate, WLTM kind lady to share interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379682**

MARK 5ft 9ins, 48, blue eyes, likes nights out, gym, pubs, clubs, seeks female, 42-50 for friendship, fun and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334611** 📱 📷

5FT 10ins male, 58, widow, likes cooking, travel, dogs, seeks female, 50-70. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379850** 📱

TALL slim, dark haired, attractive male, young 54, seeks attractive, slim female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334557**

JASON fun loving, late 20's, likes outdoors, meals out, pubs, clubs, dad of one, seeks female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379878**

ATTRACTIVE tall male, former lover of the year 2004, seeks friendly, feisty female for daytime fun to relight the fires. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333983**

DAVID 5ft 11ins, fair hair, blue eyes, clean shaven, smart, likes travel, music, seeks female companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379708**

JOE 66, likes gardening, travel, cooking, nights out, seeks female for fun, friendship, cuddles and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334481** 📱

MEL 6ft, loyal, faithful, trustworthy, honest, likes swimming, walks, sports, pubs, good food, animal lover, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334421** 📱

ADRIAN 70 plus, seeks companion of similar age who likes animals, meals out and socialising. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379792** 📱

ROBERT 68, professor of Archaeology retired, MS sufferer, seeks female, 55-65 for friendship and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379732** 📱

MALE 52, seeks N/S, young at heart female for theatre, cinema and meals out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379722** 📱

TALL uncomplicated Christian male, mid 50's, refuses to take himself too seriously, GSOH, seeks friendship with female, 45 or under. Croydon. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334395** 📱

YOUNG 64yr old male, seeks female of similar age or younger, slim, petite, N/S, social drinker for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334273** 📱

PETER 61, likes walks, meals out, music, cooking, seeks discreet female for no strings mutual fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379698**

WIDOWER late 60's, tall, grey hair, N/S, likes sport, music, theatre, walks, seeks attractive N/S female, 60-66 for LTR. Eastbourne. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 323687**

TALL male, professional, seeks likewise female, 20-40. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334261**

WHITE male, 61, N/S, own home, GSOH, seeks romantic, understanding, black/Asian female, 40-60 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334099** 📱

MEDITERRANEAN male, 5ft 2ins, likes sports, music, seeks female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333925** 📱

MALE 45, medium build, tall, blue eyes, brown hair, GSOH, romantic, honest, likes pubs, music, nights in, seeks slim-medium build female, 28-45. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379780** 📱

65YR old male, lonely, likes nights out, most things, N/S, seeks lady of similar age for TLC and fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334401**

NICE looking mature, fit, funny, honest guy, 58, likes sun, walks, music, nights out, seeks slim, lively, attractive female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334183** 📱

MALE 44, brown hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks attractive, slim, honest female, 32-38 with no ties for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334159** 📱

PROFESSIONAL male, 55, slim, 5ft 11ins, divorced, N/S, likes travel, sports, walks, seeks slim, fit, N/S, genuine female, 48-59. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334095**

NICE guy 35, 5ft 5ins, short dark hair, hazel eyes, slim, seeks nice female with GSOH for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379492** 📱

MALE 40, fit seeks female for discreet fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333385** 📱

GARY 47, blue eyes, 5ft 7ins, brown hair, easygoing, likes nights in/out, dvds, seeks young female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333329** 📱

MAL 6ft, gorgeous, handsome, faithful, loyal, trustworthy, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333225** 📱

DAVID 52, 5ft 10ins, balding, likes golf, countryside, days out, holidays, seeks female for caring relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333219** 📱

MALE 55, likes travel, dogs, countryside, coast, seeks female for friendship and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333189**

TALL upbeat male, mid 50's, adventurous spirit, seeks female, 45 or younger for serious relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 328583** 📱

NORMAL well adjusted chap, 50, GSOH, seeks similar female to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332855**

YOUNG at heart male, 51, 5ft 7ins, brown hair, fit, sporty, romantic, seeks similar female, 46-56 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332843** 📱

TIM 48, medium build, short dark hair, likes walks, music, meals out, seeks genuine female, 35-48 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379394** 📱

ANDY 47, slim, honest, tanned, African, likes cooking, pool, pubs, nights in/out, seeks nice female, 30-60 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379604**

ANDY mature 50, own home, seeks female, 40-60 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379560** 📱

JOHN 47, 6ft, dark hair, GSOH, seeks young, attractive female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379480**

HOVE male, 61, divorced, easygoing, GSOH, likes music, seaside, cinema, shows, photography, seeks likeminded female for friendship and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379526**

YOUNG 37yr old male, easygoing, average looks/build, GSOH, likes beach, walks, meals out, nights in, dvds, seeks female, 25-40 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 329999** 📱

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GAY male, 59, seeks similar male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379266** 📱 📷

GAY lad, 26, straight acting, blond hair, blue eyes, slim, toned, down to earth, many interests, seeks down to earth similar guy for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333313** 📱

MID 50's smart guy, good looking, Christian, likes theatre, cinema, meals out, OHAC, GSOH, seeks similar guy for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 330797** 📱

PASSIVE guy 58, well built, 16st, non hairy, seeks assertive guy/couples. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379048**

DAVID 55, slight speech problem, likes sport, nights in/out, seeks post op female for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 331343** 📱

SANDY 41, gay, 5ft 6ins, brown hair/eyes, attractive, many interests, seeks soft butch female who is gentle, honest, trustworthy and caring. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 325509** 📱

JUST good friends

FEMALE seeks middle aged female, 50-60, likes walks, gym, dancing for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334787** 📱

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High-rise students

AN INNOVATIVE new learning centre which focuses on outdoor activities as a career is holding its first graduation ceremony.

A group of students from the Treejumpers Outdoor Academy, based at the Hop Farm in Paddock Wood, will on July 29 be commended for completing the entry to employment course. They will be the first to graduate from the academy after the course was launched in January.

A spokeswoman from the centre said young people aged from 16-19 years old have been learning basic skills to become outdoor activity leaders, as well as gaining qualifications including the Sports Leader Award, customer services and first aid.

"We will be continuing with a similar course from August onwards," she added.

To find out more about the Treejumpers Outdoor Academy visit www.treejumpersacademy.co.uk or call 01622 870822.

iBorrow, they win

PIONEERING computer schemes and IT at Canterbury Christ Church University have been recognised with a national award for excellence.

Staff at the university's computer services department celebrated at a ceremony in Park Lane, in London, where they won the Times Higher Education Leadership and Management 2010 Outstanding ICT Team award.

The coveted award praised the launch of iBorrow, a self-service laptop loan scheme, and new infrastructure at the university's new Library and Student Services Centre.

Dr Ian Ellery, head of computing services at the university, said: "This award recognises the hard work by everyone in the department.

"It was an extraordinary year that delivered all the IT for multiple new buildings and spaces, as well as creating the innovative and unique iBorrow scheme.

"I am proud to be part of this team."

International talk focuses on postgraduates

NIGERIAN and South African academics have joined their British counterparts for an international conference looking at postgraduate employment skills, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

The University of Greenwich's Medway campus played host to the meeting, which aimed to explore ways of providing graduates in sub-Saharan Africa with the high-level expertise demanded from employers.

The university is leading part of the £4.5 million Education Partnerships in Africa scheme launched in 2008, by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and managed by the British Council.

Representatives from Greenwich, the University of Wolverhampton and London South Bank University met with their Nigerian partners from the University of Benin, the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, and Abia State University, Uturu, at Chatham Maritime.

Expertise

Discussions were focused on how to include the high-level skills needed by employers into courses and training for engineering, IT and business students in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly Nigeria.

Professor Ndy Ekere, head of the University of Greenwich's school of engineering, said: "We are the lead partner in an 18-month programme looking at the best approaches to embedding employability skills within postgraduate programmes.

"The conference was opened by University of Greenwich deputy vice-chancellor for research and enterprise, Professor Tom Barnes, and our keynote speaker for the event was Professor Kanes Rajah, director of the business school at Tshwane University of Technology, Pretoria."

MEETING: Delegates from the universities

Professor Iche Kalu, dean of engineering and environmental studies at Abia State University, said: "The wide range of conference participants and high level of expertise from across the University of Greenwich enabled us to consider specific case studies from Nigeria and to work through approaches to improve the links between businesses and employers with education providers."

Plans are now being drawn up to create an additional network to allow UK and Nigerian universities to work together on employability schemes.

A bid for funding is also being considered to enable Nigerian academics and technical staff to train in the UK and create joint research projects between UK and Nigerian universities.

For more information about the Education Partnerships in Africa project go to www.ukafricapartnerships.org.

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Uni opens doors to hopeful teachers

AN OPEN evening has been held for people considering a career in secondary school teaching.

The University of Greewich's school of education and training opened its doors to showcase its postgraduate and professional certificates in education (PGCE), covering a range of subjects including science, maths, music, ICT and design and technology. Visitors were also given information about the university's two and three-year undergraduate courses.

The PGCE course runs for 36 weeks, of which 24 are spent working in school placements. For information call freephone 0800 005 006, email courseinfo@greenwich.ac.uk or go to www.gre.ac.uk.

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David Grimwood, Suite 6 60 Churchill Square, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4YU,
or by phone 07960 369681 or by email to d.grimwood@zedakah.co.uk.
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Due to the funding criteria for the Apprentice Programme candidates must be aged under 19 and not have studied towards an NVQ at Level 2 at the point the course commences.

CLOSING DATE: **Friday 16 July 2010**

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment.

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website at www.rbli.co.uk.

For further information please visit our website at **www.midkent.ac.uk**. Alternatively, please e-mail **job.applications@midkent.ac.uk**. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the **HR department** on **01634 383102.** In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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Please quote reference number 679.

Closing date: 19 July 2010.
Interview date: 28 July 2010.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.
Charity No: 292824

www.kca.org.uk

Progressive, Responsive, Effective

Do you want to *'Make a Difference'*?
CHARITY TRUSTEES WANTED

Salary: £00.00 (Voluntary Position)
Based: Faversham, Kent
Benefits: A great sense of satisfaction
Making a valuable contribution to society
The opportunity to use your skills, knowledge and experience
The occasional lunch!

Avante Partnership is a highly respected Kent based charity that provides a diverse range of services that care for and support almost 5,000 people in Kent, Medway and South London. We employ almost 2000 people who are passionate about what we do and have an annual income of over £33m pa. The Board of Trustees have recently undertaken a Governance review and are looking to recruit a number of new Trustees who have experience and knowledge in the areas of dementia, the provision of homecare services and children, young people and families. We're also looking for potential Trustees who can make a genuine contribution to our work. You may have a business, community, social care, educational, health or local authority background. We don't mind, we just want great people!

The Board meets 4 times a year during the working day and is supported by a number of Operating Boards and Committees. The Board also holds two Away Days a year with the Management Team

Interested? Want to find out more? Have a look at our website www.avantepartnership.org.uk. For an informal conversation, please contact **Cedric Frederick, Avante Partnership's Chief Executive** on **01795 597400**

Heard enough? Please send Cedric your CV and a covering letter setting out why you'd like to join our Board to **cfrederick@avantepartnership.org.uk** or marked *'Private and Confidential'* to **Avante Partnership, De Gelsey House, 1 Jubilee Way, Faversham, Kent ME13 8GD**

avante partnership

Exhibition Stand Design, Manufacture, & Management based in Gravesend require
EXHIBITION LABOURER/DRIVER
(HGV Class 2 and forktruck licences essential)
Telephone (01474) 536360 for application form or e-mail CV to: mail@esm-uk.com

PART-TIME VACANCY
Bellegrove Ceramics Plc are looking to recruit a reliable part-time Sales Assistant who can be flexible with working hours, and can provide cover for holidays/absences, possibly at short notice.
This position would involve cover between Strood and Tunbridge Wells, so a current driving licence is essential.
After initial training, the minimum working requirement will be 16 hours per week, and would include Sundays.
Interested: please forward your CV to christine.williams@bellegroveceramics.plc.uk

SC Support & Care Services Ltd
We provide a high quality service to promote independent living and social activities for people with various needs.
We are looking for **part time, casual, evening and weekend staff** to work in Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks.
Car and mobile essential. Mileage allowance, weekend and evening enhancements.
£6.32 - £7.99 per hour.
Full training given.
For further details please ring 01732 875888

Jobs for Kent continues on page 67...

The smart way to find your next job JobsforKent.co.uk

KCA is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors.

Community Drug Worker
Substance Misusing Parents Project

£26,276 - £29,236 + essential car user allowance of up to £1,239 per annum • 37 hours per week • Based Swale

You will be part of a project providing specialist treatment to parents with drug or alcohol problems, who have been referred to Swale Children's Social Services, and whose substance use is impacting on the care of their children.

You will work closely with social workers to implement a joint package of care to families. This includes making home visits, attending case conferences and core group meetings.

With excellent assessment and intervention skills, you will help service users make significant changes to their substance use. Experience of working in partnership with other agencies is desirable. A background and qualification in substance misuse, nursing, counselling, social work or another relevant profession is essential.

If you would like to discuss this post further, please contact Sue Hamilton at shamilton@kca.org.uk or on 01843 298355 ext 217. Ref: 681.

Closing date: 26 July 2010 at 5.00pm.
Interview date: 6 August 2010.

Family Support Workers

2 posts • Fixed term until 31 March 2011

£22,958 - £29,236
37 hours per week • 1 post in Gravesham and 1 post in Swale

KCA Horizon drug treatment programmes offer intensive key working, group work and assistance and support in accessing opportunities in education, employment and voluntary work, to those wishing to address their substance misuse and make positive changes to their lifestyle.

You will be part of a community team whose aim is to improve the quality of treatment, in order to maximize the benefit to individuals' families and the local community. As a family support worker within the Horizon pilot project, you will be responsible for addressing the impact that substance misuse has on the family, including parenting and involving families and significant others in the care of service users.

You will need a professional qualification in a relevant discipline and a high level of experience working with families and the drug and alcohol field. Please quote reference number 682 (Gravesham post) and 683 (Swale post).

Closing date: 26 July 2010.
Interview date for both posts : 5 August 2010.

Finance Office Assistant

£15,039 - £16,830 pro rata per annum
30 hours per week • Based Faversham

As part of our busy finance team, you will undertake the daily administration duties and assist in the operation and maintenance of the purchase ledger, sales ledger and payroll. You will also provide back-up support for team members as required. Training will be provided.

You will need to have good keyboard skills, be numerate and fully computer literate. Previous experience of working in a finance office and knowledge of Microsoft Office and Dynamics Great Plains is desirable but not essential. You will need to be able to respond to people in a professional manner and have good communication skills.

For an informal discussion regarding the role, please contact Ann Colyer, Finance Office Manager, on 01795 590795. Ref: 684.

Closing date: 23 July 2010.
Interview date: 11 August 2010.

Application forms and job descriptions for all roles can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk You can also email recruitment@kca.org.uk or call 01795 590795 selecting option three. Please quote the relevant reference number.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity No: 292824

www.kca.org.uk

Progressive, Responsive, Effective

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

Due to the expansion of our busy workshop, we require a

Fully Qualified MOT Tester

to join our friendly team within a privately owned Ford dealership located in Herne Bay.

Current MOT qualification and full driving licence required.

Main duties will include MOT testing and basic vehicle repairs on all makes and models of class 4 vehicles. You must be able to work off your own initiative and as part of a small team. The successful candidate will receive excellent rates of pay and a working week of 40 hours Monday to Friday, every other Saturday morning at overtime rate and a great working environment.

To apply, please e-mail your CV to carole@countygarageford.co.uk or alternatively send your CV to:

Carole Fowler, County Garage (Sales) Ltd
7-15 Sea Street, Herne Bay, CT6 8SP

The closing date for applicants is 21st July 2010

Martin Tolhurst Solicitors

in Gravesend are looking to recruit a full time Residential Conveyancing secretary. Training will be given.

Please apply enclosing CV and covering letter to

Cathanne Craigie
Martin Tolhurst Partnership LLP
7 Wrotham Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 0PD
email - ccraigie@martintolhurst.co.uk
Telephone - 01474 546018

Closing date 9 July 2010

FULL TIME DOUBLE GLAZED INSTALLER/ENGINEER
WANTED

You must have minimum of 3 years experience of fitting UPVC/timber/aluminium windows, doors and conservatories, also be hands on in repairs and maintenance of locks, hinges etc.

You must also be able to work on your own, using your own initiative and hold a full current Driving Licence.

Please apply in writing with a current CV to:
SouthEast WindowCare
Unit 1 John Hall Close
Oare Road, Faversham
Kent ME13 7TY

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10 x LGV 1 Drivers PM / NTS

6 MTH CONTRACT
£550 p/wk Holiday & mileage allowance

Due to continued growth Mainstream, Kent's leading driving agency, need 10 pm/nt LGV 1 Drivers to work Thursday to Monday shifts. The contract is for a fixed 6 month period ending in January 2011.
The work will involve primarily supermarkets based in Aylesford and Snodland.
£550 p/wk is guaranteed + overtime possible. Holiday is accrued as you go so 14 days most likely. Interviews will be held in Sittingbourne but positions will be subject to the passing of a driving assessment. 1 years min experience and no more than 6 points on licence.

Call Jamie or Graham now on 01795 418100 (agy)

We are looking for an exceptional sales person for a field sales position covering the Maidstone area
Only hard working, tenacious and motivated professionals need apply

Ideally from a sales background you will understand the importance of balancing good customer service with achieving targets. Media experience is not essential as training will be given.

KOS Media is one of the fastest growing multi media companies serving the Kent county. We publish 14 weekly newspapers including the flagship Kent on Sunday together with seasonal /annual magazines and 20 online news sites.

We offer a good basic salary, performance and target related bonus and 5 weeks holiday.

KOS media
Award Winning Company

So if you think you have what it takes to join our sales teams send your CV to **ynez.coton@kosmedia.co.uk** quoting fieldsales or telesales position.

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Register your details and we'll email you daily with new jobs that match your selected criteria

JobsforKent.co.uk
The smart way to find a job in the County

...Jobs for Kent continued from page 30

Public Sector

You can also find the latest jobs online: www.jobsforkent.co.uk

KOSMEDIA | Telephone: 01303 817040 | Fax: 01303 817004 | Email: appointments@kosmedia.co.uk | Online: www.jobsforkent.co.uk

Gravesend Grammar School for Girls

A Foundation School

Pelham Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0JE Telephone: 01474 352896
Fax: 01474 331195 Website:www.ggsg.org.uk email: enquiries@ggsg.org.uk

SENIOR COVER SUPERVISOR

35 hours per week - Term Time and Development Days Only (i.e. 39 weeks per year plus paid holiday entitlement) Salary at KCS Band 5, initially Point 14 Pro rata £13,404.60 (full time £16,793)

A methodical and organised person is required to arrange classroom cover at Gravesend Grammar School for Girls. You will be arranging cover for absent teachers using our in-house cover supervisors and a variety of ad-hoc personnel and part time staff. Accuracy and attention to detail is essential. When not engaged in arranging cover you will be required to cover classes as detailed below.

COVER SUPERVISOR / EXAMS ASSISTANT

32.5 hours per week - Term Time, Development Days plus 1 week during holiday period (i.e. 40 weeks per year plus paid holiday entitlement) Salary at KCS Band 4, initially Point 11 Pro rata £12,116.76 (full time £15,984)

Responsible, methodical and accurate person required to work supporting the Exams Officer. Work entails covering classes as detailed below and assisting in the administration of both internal and external exams. During exam periods it will be necessary to work flexibly. Experience of working in a school is desirable and knowledge of the SIMS database would be an advantage. You will be required to work during the exam results period in the summer holidays.

COVER SUPERVISOR

32.5 hours per week - Term Time and Development Days Only (i.e. 39 weeks per year plus paid holiday entitlement) Salary at KCS Band 4, initially Point 11 Pro rata £11,847.48 (full time £15,984)

Enthusiastic, versatile and capable person required to provide classroom cover at Gravesend Grammar School for Girls. The role requires you to actively support the teaching and learning by supervising classes including giving instructions, answering questions and ensuring the engagement of students in study. The role also involves discipline and maintaining behaviour standards. When not actively covering classes you will be required to provide admin support to the teaching staff.

MATHS AND LANGUAGE TECHNICIAN

37 hours per week - Term Time and Development Days Only (i.e. 39 weeks per year plus paid holiday entitlement) Salary at KCS Band 3, initially Point 7 Pro rata £11,897.28 (full time £14,099)

An organised and enthusiastic person is required to support our Maths and Language Faculties. The role covers a wide range of duties including preparing class materials, stock control and orders, maintenance of laptops and language lab and general faculty support. This is an exciting and demanding post and the successful candidate must be ICT literate, flexible and able to work on their own initiative and as part of a team..

MID DAY SUPERVISORS

6.25 hours a week 12.25 – 13.40 daily - Term Time Only (i.e. 38 weeks per year plus paid holiday entitlement) Salary at KCS Band 2, initially Point 4 Pro rata £1,815 (full time £12,903)

Required to supervise the dining room and playground during the lunch period ensuring standards of discipline and hygiene are maintained.

All roles are required from September 2010. Application forms and further details are available from the School Office. Completed forms should be returned by post, fax or email for the attention of **Mrs E Wilson, Headteacher** no later than Wednesday 14th July.

Interviews will be held on the 19th or 20th July 2010.

The Folkestone academy

Required for September 2010

HOUSE PASTORAL MANAGER

Kent Scheme band 7 point 20 (within the range of 20 – 24)
Full time, permanent, 43 hours per week
Term time only plus 2 INSET days (which equates to £20,063)

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a dynamic, enthusiastic and skilled pastoral manager to join our successful team of House Pastoral Managers. Pastoral Care and Guidance at the Academy are delivered through our eight unique Houses. The House Pastoral Manager plays a pivotal role in supporting the welfare and care of the students in the House, working closely with the Head of House and as part of the wider team of Pastoral Managers. In addition, House Pastoral Managers undertake supervision and security duties on a rota basis.

We seek to appoint a Pastoral Manager who will share our dedication and commitment to positive discipline, care & guidance of young people and who will build strong working relationships with students and their families.

Full details and an application form are available from our website: **www.folkestoneacademy.com** Alternatively contact Sally Taylor on 01303 842400 or via email: sally.taylor@folkestoneacademy.com

Closing date: Thursday 15th July at 12.00 pm

The Folkestone Academy is committed to the safeguarding of children and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check. The Folkestone Academy is an equal opportunities employer.

The Folkestone Academy, Academy Lane, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5FP • Tel: 01303 842400
Email: admin@folkestoneacademy.com

Find teaching jobs online

Register your details and we'll email you daily with new jobs that match your selected criteria

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POWERED BY KOS MEDIA

PART TIME DINING ROOM ASSISTANT REQUIRED

(starting Monday, 6 September)
Monday—Friday 11.30am—2.30pm
Term time only

(additional assistance with Saturday match teas will be required on a rota basis - overtime paid)
To assist the existing staff with the children's lunches
(must have some kitchen experience preferably within a school kitchen environment)

Telephone: Mr Jerry Warran-Smith (Head Chef)
for Application Form 01892 519349
(if answerphone please leave details of name and address)

Closing date: Wednesday, 21 July

'Rose Hill is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children'

Teachers Needed

Primary, Secondary and SEN.

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:

- ✔ Daily/weekly/termly supply opportunities
- ✔ Excellent rates of pay – paid weekly
- ✔ Free in-service training and CPD assessment
- ✔ Free use of resource centre
- ✔ An out-of-hours service

Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

To find out more information and to register with us, please call us free on:
0800 731 6871
or email
enquiry.ers@capita.co.uk

CAPITA EDUCATION RESOURCING (Agy)

Committed to equal opportunities

The Folkestone academy

Required 1st September 2010

COVER SUPERVISOR

Kent Scheme 6 point17 (within the range of 17 – 20)
36.5 hours per week
Term time only plus 2 INSET days (which equates to £15,125)

A dynamic and energetic individual is required to supervise students completing private study tasks and to cover classes for absent teaching staff across the curriculum.

Full details are available on our website:
www.folkestoneacademy.com
or telephone for an application pack.

Closing date: Thursday 15 July 2010 @ 12pm

The Folkestone Academy is committed to the safeguarding of children and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check. The Folkestone Academy is an equal opportunities employer.

The Folkestone Academy, Academy Lane, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5FP • Tel: 01303 842400
Email: admin@folkestoneacademy.com

The smart way to find your next job
JobsforKent.co.uk

THE SPENCER WING

The Spencer Wing is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site.

The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Healthcare Assistant

Full-time position

Qualifications: Evidence of healthcare experience
GCSE English / or equivalent

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact
Vicky Smith or Mary Guarnieri – 01843 234555 Ext: 62207

For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd
The Spencer Wing, QEQM Hospital
Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer
This position is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

THE SPENCER WING

The Spencer Wing is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site.

The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Senior Staff Nurse

Full-time position

Qualifications: Registered Nurse 1st Level
Minimum 2 years post registration/equivalent experience
Evidence of continual professional development
ENB 998 Teaching and Assessing Course or equivalent

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact
Vicky Smith or Mary Guarnieri – 01843 234555 Ext: 62207

For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd
The Spencer Wing, QEQM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer
This position is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

NORTHFLEET SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
Hall Road, Northfleet, Kent DA11 8AQ
Tel: 0844 477 2525 Fax: 01474 335058

We are seeking to appoint an

Academic Coaches in Science & Mathematics
37 hours per week commencing
8.15 a.m. with varying end times

Both are Kent Scheme 5 Points 14-17 - £14,170 to £15,738 p.a.

As an Academic Coach you will work with the more able individuals and groups of students to motivate and ensure adequate challenge, in order that students meet their targets and that any barriers to learning are overcome. You will work as part of a domain focused curriculum team, and be educated to at least A Level standard.

Full job description and application form available on our website at www.northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk. Application by fully completed application form with supporting letter to Mrs S Chisholm at the school (tel: 0844 477 2525) or email: personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk.

The successful applicant will be subject to a full CRB check.

Closing date for applications: 12 July 2010

Rainham School for Girls
(A Specialist Technology College & Training School)
Derwent Way, Rainham, GILLINGHAM Kent ME8 0BX

(NOR 1570)

Head Teacher: Mrs J Dunn

Science Teacher required for September 2010

Applications welcome from experienced teachers and NQTs

Rainham School for Girls is a popular and successful non-selective 11-19 school offering excellent opportunities for enthusiastic and ambitious applicants to contribute to its continuing development. The school has Investors in People status.

Any offer of employment for this post will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Application forms and further details are available from Mrs D Francis, HR Manager at the School.
Tel. 01634 362746, Fax: 01634 388334. email: dfrancis@rsg.org.uk

Closing date: Monday, 19th July 2010

Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following areas:

Lecturer in Electrical Installation — Ref: P0357

Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience) Medway

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The successful candidate will contribute to the development, delivery and teaching of Electrical Installation programmes. The ideal candidate must have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate must have; an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Inspection and testing of Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one. Good IT skills and the ability to work within a team are essential.

Lecturer in Foundation Programmes — Ref: P0121

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 pro rata (dependant on qualifications and experience) 30 hours per week Medway

The College is looking to recruit an outstanding individual to participate in the delivery of Foundation Programmes across the College. The role will involve working with Learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and ensuring that learners develop and achieve the skills they need to progress. The successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Additional Learning Support Tutor/Assessor — Ref: P0378

Salary: £24,792 - £28,311 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience)
Hourly paid roles also available Maidstone/Medway

We are looking to recruit an exceptional candidate to assist with learning support for students with additional learning support needs. The ideal candidate will be able to demonstrate experience in and knowledge of tutoring, assessing and supporting learners with difficulties and disabilities. The successful candidate will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised assessing certificate.

Personal Tutor — Ref: P0499

Salary: £20,674 - £23,212 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience) Maidstone

As a Personal Tutor you will plan and deliver a full range of group tutorials to learners with a wide range of abilities. You will also be responsible for a range of supportive activities including one-to-one tutorials. You will be able to work with minimum supervision and have experience of working in a coaching, mentoring or teaching capacity and be willing to undertake an appropriate teaching qualification.

Front Line Events Co-ordinator — Ref: M0450

Maternity Cover – fixed term contract Salary: £16,005 - £19,127 per annum Medway

The successful candidate will arrange, develop and deliver activities to facilitate student learning through training and experience at events. You will efficiently organise frontline events, including liaison with event organisers and Lecturers, supporting the College in the effective running of the frontline programme. Excellent communication skills and a recognised customer service qualification are essential as well as, experience of driving a minibus and holding a full, clean driving license with Class D entitlement or a current PCV license.

Technician in Hair and Beauty — Ref: P0277

Salary: £15,453 - £17,243 per annum Medway

We are looking for an organised candidate to assist the smooth running of the Hair and Beauty department. Responsibilities will include providing technical support to staff and students and setting-up the classrooms as required. Experience in the industry would be advantageous.

Information and Guidance Triage — Ref: P0131

Salary: £15,453 - £17,243 per annum Medway

We are looking to recruit a candidate to assist with the smooth running of the Information, Advice and Guidance department. The ideal candidate will have experience of working within a busy environment and will have excellent organisational skills. Duties will include providing a general enquiry service as part of the front of house team.

Hourly Paid Facilitators — Ref: SE560

Hourly Rate: £8.96 - £11.26 (dependent on qualifications and experience) Medway

We are looking to recruit sessional facilitators to join our successful CAST Team, working with students who have learning difficulties/disabilities. The ideal candidates will have experience of working with young people and are able to offer hours to suit the College timetables.

CLOSING DATE: Friday 16 July 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from **www.midkent.ac.uk**. Alternatively, please e-mail **job.applications@midkent.ac.uk**. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

Action for Business College · Investors in Diversity · RBLI · Investor in People · MidKent College

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

CHARTHAM HATCH LEVEL CROSSING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of track maintenance, the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting traffic on Chartham Hatch Level Crossing from 18 July 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works are complete.

Hatch Lane, Chartham will be closed for a distance of 30 metres either side of the level crossing. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions of A28 Ashford Road and New Town Street.

The signposted alternative route is via A28 Ashford Road, Howfield Lane and New Town Street.

The works are planned to be carried out from Sunday 18 July 2010 from 1.35 am through to Monday 19 July at 4.30 am.

NARGATE STREET, LITTLEBOURNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of BT cabling & jointing works, the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting traffic on Nargate Street, Littlebourne from 26 July 2010 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between property numbers 1 and 12.

The alternative route is via High Street, Jubilee Road and Church Road

ST STEPHEN'S ROAD, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of gas mains replacement works, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting through traffic on St Stephen's Road, Canterbury from 26 July 2010 for up to 6 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between house number 99 and the junction with Hales Drive. There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with St Stephen's Court and Hales Drive. The junction with Hales Drive will remain open during the works.

The alternative route is via St Stephen's Road, North Lane, St Dunstan's Street, Forty Acres Road, Beaconsfield Road and St Stephen's Green.

Alternative routes avoiding the St Dunstan's area are:

From St Stephen's Hill via Downs Road, Tenterden Drive, Farleigh Road, Broad Oak Road and St Stephen's Road

From Kingsmead Road / Broad Oak Road via Farleigh Road, Tenterden Drive, The Terrace and Manwood Avenue.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

CHURCH HILL, WILMINGTON (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Church Hill, Wilmington between its junctions with Hill Road and Hawley Road

The Order will become effective on 26th July 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 26th July and last for up to 6 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: High Road, Wilmington; Common Lane, Wilmington; Oakfield Lane, Wilmington/Dartford; and Hawley Road, Dartford.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Water Main Laying works for Thames Water.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham

BREWERS ROAD, COBHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Brewers Road, Cobham (A2 Cobham Flyover).

The Order will become effective on 12th July 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last over 2 weekends between 16th – 19th and 23rd – 26th July 2010 starting 20.00 hours Friday and ending 06.00 hours Monday. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via:

Northbound – Cobham Slip westbound on, Watling Street, Wrotham Road tollgate slip westbound off, Wrotham Road, Wrotham Road roundabout to petrol station, Cobham Slip eastbound off and Brewers Road.

Southbound – Cobham Slip eastbound on, Watling Street, Wainscott Northern Bypass, Gravesend Road, Wainscott Northern Bypass, Three Crutches Slip westbound, Watling Street and Cobham Slip westbound off.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate carriageway resurfacing.

CASTLE LANE, GRAVESEND (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Castle Lane, Gravesend from its junctions with Filborough Way and Darenth Drive.

The Order will become effective on 12th July 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 5 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Rochester Road, Church Lane, Lower Higham Road and Castle Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate installation of a new electrical supply.

VARIOUS ROADS, GRAVESHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting and restricting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads, Gravesend as noted in attached Schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 12rth July 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last as noted in Schedule 1. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: as noted in the schedule.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate gas main replacement.

Schedule 1

Road Name:	**Campbell Road, Gravesend**
Extent:	Restrict vehicular traffic North-Eastbound from its junction with Granville Road to Lennox Road.
Date:	12th July 2010 for 8 weeks.
Diversion:	Granville Road, Pelham Road and Lennox Road.
Road Name:	**Grange Road, Gravesend**
Extent:	From its junction with Pelham Road and Lennox Road.
Date:	23trd August 2010 for 2 weeks
Diversion:	Lennox Road and Pelham Road.
Road Name:	**Lennox Road, Gravesend**
Extent:	Restrict vehicular traffic Northbound from its junction with Pelham Road to Grange Road.
Date:	26th July 2010 for 6 weeks.
Diversion:	Pelham Road, Darnley Road, The Overcliffe and London Road
Road Name:	**Campbell Road, Gravesend**
Extent:	No left turn into Lennox Road.
Date:	26th July 2010 for 6 weeks.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

BACK STREET, LEEDS (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on Back Street Leeds. This order will come into effect on or after Thursday 15th July 2010 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the closure is as follows Caring Lane, Ashford Road, Old Mill Road and Forge Lane.

BT apologise for any inconvenience caused by the works to access overhead network to replace faulty pole. essential works which are necessary to permanently reinstate the carriageway. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Tracy Zeal on 01622 798417.

VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in the Schedule.

The alternative routes as described will be noted in the schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure. The Order will become effective on Monday 12th July 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

Schedule

Road Name:	**A20 Ashford Road, Bearsted**
Extent:	Willington Street to Wat Tyler Way
Dates:	Start: 12th July 2010 End: 17th July 2010 19:00hrs to 02:00hrs
Diversion:	Westbound via Willington Street, A274 Sutton Road, A229 Loose Road/ Hayle Road/College Road/The Broadway/St Peters Street/ Bishops Way/Palace Avenue/Romney Place, Wat Tyler Way. Eastbound via Wat Tyler Way, A229 Upper Stone Street/Loose Road, A274 Sutton Road, Willington Street
Road Name:	**Church Road, Otham**
Extent:	50m from junction of Deringwood Drive
Dates:	Start: 17th July 2010 End: 18th July 2010 19:00hrs to 02:00hrs
Diversion:	Church Road, Gore Court Road, A274 Sutton Road, Willington Street, Deringwood Drive
Road Name:	**Four Oaks Road, Headcorn**
Extent:	Hawkenbury Road to Plumtree Road
Dates:	Start: 15th July 2010 End: 19th July 2010 Working days 07:00hrs to 19:00hrs
Diversion:	New Barn Road, A274 Maidstone Road
Road Name:	**Queens Road, Maidstone**
Extent:	A26 Tonbridge Road to A20 London Road
Dates:	Start: 26thJuly 2010 End: 2ndAugust 2010 Working days 07:00hrs to 19:00hrs
Diversion:	A26 Tonbridge Road, A20 Terrace Road/ London Road
Road Name:	**Middlesex Road, Maidstone**
Extent:	Full Length
Dates:	Start: 16th August 2010 End: 18th October 2010 07:00hrs to 19:00hrs
Diversion:	Nottingham Avenue, Hereford Road
Road Name:	**Hereford Road**
Extent:	Full Length
Dates:	Start: 22nd November 2010 End: 31st January 2011 07:00hrs to 19:00hrs
Diversion:	Northumberland Road, Worcester Road

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate carriageway/ footway resurfacing works to be undertaken by Kent Highway Services.

Please note: Access will be maintained for all residents, businesses and their visitors as much as possible during the works.

For further information or comment please call Andrew Mitchell of Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

A249 SITTINGBOURNE ROAD/DETLING HILL AND OTHER ROADS AT DETLING/ THURNHAM/ STOCKBURY (TRAFFIC SPEED AND TRAFFIC REGULATION) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the likelihood of danger to the public using a road the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting traffic speed, the regulation of traffic and the use by traffic as described in the Schedule.

The order shall come into operation at times when required on 16th/17th/18th July 2010.

Schedule (The Speed limits and Traffic Regulations)

Traffic in excess of 40 mph shall be prohibited on Sittingbourne Road/Detling Hill, Detling/Thurnham/ Stockbury in both directions between its junction with the M20 roundabout (junction 7) and the M2 roundabout (junction 5).

No person shall, at times when required between 06:00hrs and 20:00hrs, except upon the direction of a Police Officer, cause or permit a vehicle to :-

Carry out a right hand turn from the A249 southbound into Scragged Oak Road.

Carry out a right hand turn from Scragged Oak Road into the A249 southbound.

Carry out a right hand turn from A249 northbound into South Green Lane.

Carry out a right hand turn or "U" turn on the A249 northbound at its junction with Rumstead Lane.

Carry out a right hand turn from A249 southbound into Aerodrome Approach.

Carry out a right hand turn from A249 southbound into Chalky Road.

Carry out a right hand turn from A249 southbound into Church Hill.

Carry out a right hand turn from A249 southbound into Honeycrock Hill.

Carry out a right hand turn from Pett Lane northbound onto A249.

The alternative routes for traffic affected by 2(i), 2(ii), 2(iii), (v), (vi), (vii), (viii), (ix) above are either:

via the roundabout at junction 5 of the M2 motorway

via the roundabout at junction 7 of the M20 motorway

CHURCH STREET, LOOSE (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Church Street, Loose on or after Monday 12th July 2010 for a period of up to 1 week or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via High Banks and Old Loose Hill.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for drainage works. Should you require any further information the Kent Highway Services contact is Jamie Cunningham on 08458 247 800.

MARION CRESENT, MAIDSTONE (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on Marion Crescent Maidstone outside and opposite the vicinity of number on or after Monday 26th July 2010 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is Cranborne Avenue and Plains Avenue.

EDF apologise for any inconvenience caused by the works to enable them to lay cable for new services.

Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Steve Bicknell on 08000835234.

SYMONDS LANE, YALDING (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on Symonds Lane Yalding. This order will come into effect on or after Sunday 1st August 2010 or a period of up to 8 Weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the road closure on Symonds Lane is Benover Road and Lees Road Yalding.

Southern Gas Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential Gas Mains replacement. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is John Adsley on 07774983419.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

NEW STREET ROAD, ASH CUM RIDLEY (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on New Street Road Ash Cum Ridley outside Keepers Cottage.

The Order will become effective on 12th July 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 3 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Bunkers Hill and Rectory Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate repairs to damage on the carriageway.

FRANKS LANE, HORTON KIRBY (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Franks Lane, Horton Kirby for its entire length.

The Order will become effective on 26th July 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 1st August 2010 and last 5 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the restriction above will be via: Eglantine Lane, A20 Main Road, A225 Dartford Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate drainage works

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

QUEENS ROAD, LITTLESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of the installation of a new wastewater pipeline, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting traffic on Queens Road, Littlestone from 26 July 2010 for up to 14 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The closure will be in rolling sections from outside number 4 to outside number 95, as signposted on site.

The alternative route is via Station Approach, Littlestone Road and Park Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

SEED ROAD, NEWNHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of works for the installation of a new water connection, the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting traffic on Seed Road, Newnham from 13 July 2010 for up to 3 days or until the works are completed.

The road will be closed outside Parsonage Farm. There will be no access for though traffic between the junctions with Hopes Hill and Foxen Road.

The signposted alternative route is via Hopes Hill, The Street and Seed Road.

KIT HILL, BOUGHTON UNDER BLEAN AND SELLING ROAD, SELLING PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of bridge inspections, the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting traffic on Kit Hill, Boughton under Blean and Selling Road, Selling.

The Order comes into effect from 12 July 2010.

Kit Hill, Boughton under Blean will be closed at Danecourt Bridge from 12 July 2010 for one day between the hours of 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

The signposted alternative route is via Kit Hill, Crouch Lane and Selling Road.

Selling Road, Selling will be closed at Fox Lane Bridge from 22 July 2010 for one day between the hours of 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

The signposted alternative route is via Selling Road, Crouch Lane, Kit Hill, and South Street.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

A2 HIGH STREET, NEWINGTON
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of gas mains replacement works, the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting traffic on A2 High Street, Newington, on or after 26 July 2010 for up to 6 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Playstool Lane and Bull Lane.

The alternative route is via A2 Boyces Hill, Keycol Hill, Key Street Roundabout, A249, Stockbury Roundabout, M2 Motorway to Junction 4, A289 Hoath Way, A2 London Road, High Street, Rainham, Moor Street, London Road, Hartlip Hill and London Road.

The alternative route for non-motorway traffic is via A2 Boyces Hill, Keycol Hill, Key Street Roundabout, Chestnut Street, Maidstone Road, A249 Sittingbourne Road, Bearstead Road, Sittingbourne Road, Albion Place, Wat Tyler Way, Mote Road, Knightrider Street (N.B. Palace Avenue and Lower Stone Street in reverse), A229 College Road, Fairmeadow, Royal Engineers Road, Chatham Road, Bluebell Hill By-pass, Maidstone Road, A230 Horsted Way, Maidstone Road, A2 New Road, Chatham Hill, Rainham Road, Watling Street, Sovereign Boulevard, London Road, High Street, Rainham, Moor Street, London Road, Hartlip Hill and London Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

THE VALE, BROADSTAIRS
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of the installation of a new gas supply, the Kent County Council has made an order prohibiting traffic on The Vale, Broadstairs from 12 July 2010 for up to 3 days or until the works are completed.

The road will be closed at between the junctions with Ramsgate Road and St George's Road.

The signposted alternative route is via Ramsgate Road, Gladstone Road, Seafield Road, Osborne Road and The Vale

ALBION ROAD, BIRCHINGTON
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway and footway repairs the Kent County Council intends to make an order prohibiting through traffic on Albion Road, Birchington, on or after 26 July 2010 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at in 2 phases, as follows.

Phase 1 will be from the junction with Station Road up to the entrance to the car park opposite Taplin Court for 3 days

Phase 2 from the car park entrance to the junction with Crescent Road for 2 days.

Access to the car park will be maintained with the drection of appraoch signposted on site.

The alternative route is via Station Road and Alpha Road.

It is planned the works will be carried out between the hours of 9.00 am and 4.00 pm, with the road re-opened outside these hours.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

THE ROCKS ROAD, EAST MALLING
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on The Rocks Road from number 154 to Four Acres on or after Wednesday 14th July 2010 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via The Rocks Road, Sweets Lane, Wateringbury Road, Chapel Street, The Rocks Road.

BT apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to carry out aerial cabling works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Tracy Zeal on 08700 500792

HAVELOCK ROAD, TONBRIDGE
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Havelock Road, Tonbridge outside number 7 on or after Monday 12th July 2010 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via The Avenue and Lodge Road and vice versa.

Southern Gas Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works to install a new supply. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Amy Colvin on 01689 881315.

COMP LANE, POTASH LANE & BONEASHE LANE, PLATT
PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in the Schedule.

The alternative routes as described will be noted in the schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure. The Order will become effective on Monday 26th July 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

Schedule

Road Name:	**Comp Lane, Platt**
Extent:	From junction of Potash Lane for 200 metres east
Dates:	Start: 26th July 2010 End: 28th July 2010
Diversion:	Beechin Wood Lane, Boneashe Lane, Potash Lane
Road Name:	**Potash Lane, Platt**
Extent:	From junction of Comp Lane past junction of Boneashe Lane
Dates:	Start: 29th July 2010 End: 5th August 2010
Diversion:	Comp Lane, Long Mill Lane, Potash Lane
Road Name:	**Boneashe Lane, Platt**
Extent:	From the crossroad with Potash Lane to Comp Lane
Dates:	Start: 6th August 2010 End: 20th August 2010
Diversion:	Boneashe Lane, Beechin Wood Lane, Comp Lane
Road Name:	**Comp Lane, Platt**
Extent:	Boneashe Road to Long Mill Lane
Dates:	Start: 23rd August 2010 End: 3rd September 2010
Diversion:	Long Mill Lane, Potash Lane

EDF Energy apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to install new electrical supplies. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is David Creasey of Amber Langis Ltd on 01732 783985.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

WHITE'S LANE, HAWKHURST
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on White's Lane from the rear of 5 Hartnoaks to 5 White's Lane on or after Monday 12th July 2010 for a period of up to 2 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via White's Lane, Water Lane, A268 Rye Road, Queens Road and vice versa.

Southern Gas Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential gas mains replacement works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Adrian Hart on 01233 713402.

ALDERS ROAD, CAPEL
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Alders Road Capel from the junction of Maidstone Road to Reeds Farm Cottages, Paddock Wood or after Monday 26th for a period of up to 3 days or until such works are completed

The diversion is as follows Sychem Lane , Five Oak Green Road, Badsell Road and Maidstone Road .

BT apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works to access overhead network. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Nicola Webb on 08700500792 216

SALT LANE, LOOSE, MAIDSTONE
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Salt Lane Loose Maidstone the whole length of the road on or after Monday 26th July 2010 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is via Hubbards Lane , Heath Road , Linton Road, and Old Loose Hill.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused, which are necessary for essential drainage

Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Jamie Cunningham on 08458 2478000.

BURSLEM ROAD , TUNBRIDGE WELLS
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Burslem Road outside and oppersite the vicinity of number 31 on or after Sunday 25th July 2010 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is Friars Way, Birken Road and Harries Road.

EDF apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential cabling works, which are necessary to enable cabling for a new electrical supply. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Steve Bicknell on 0800 0835234

SLIP MILL ROAD, HAWKHURST
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Slip Mill Road Hawkhurt from the junction with A229 Hawkhurst Road for a distance of approx 50 metres on or after Monday 26th July 2010 for a period of up to 2 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restriction described above is via A229 Hawkhurst Road , Limes Grove and vice versa.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused, which are necessary to allow construction of build outs at the junction with A229 Hawkhurst road to reduce overall width of the junction Once works are completed, the right turn into A229 Hawkhurst Road will be banned along with No entry onto Slip Mill Road from A229 Hawkhurst Road .

Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Simon Allsop on 08458 2478000.

ASHURST HILL, ASHURST
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Ashurst Hill at the railway bridge on or after Wednesday 28th July 2010 between the hours of 23:00hrs and 05:00hrs for a period of up to 2 nights or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via A264 Ashurst Road, B2110 Groombridge Hill, B2110 Withyham Road, B2026 Edenbridge Road, A264 Ashurst Road and vice versa.

Connect Traffic Management apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to remove and replace damaged chevrons. Should you require any further information regarding these works, the contact is Mark Reeves on 07984 716357.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

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PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE

I, Emmett Michael Hannan of The Coffee Shop, 12, Hollingworth Court, Turkey Mill, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5PP hereby give notice that I have made an application to the Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent. ME15 6JQ for grant of a premises licence to permit the following licensable activities;

1. Sale of alcohol by retail
2. Provision of Regulated Entertainment
3. Provision of Late Night Refreshment

In respect of the premises situated at 12, Hollingworth Court, Turkey Mill, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5PP known by the sign of The Coffee Shop.

The application can be viewed at the offices of Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME16 8HR during normal office hours.

Any person wishing to make representation concerning this application should do so in writing to the above local authority and within 28 consecutive days of the submission of the application, that is no later than 2nd August 2010.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. Any person who makes a false statement is liable on summary conviction to a maximum fine of £5,000.

Stephen Thomas LAW
8 Grassmere, Leybourne, West Malling, Kent ME19 5QP
Authorised Agents for and on behalf of the applicants.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Local Development Framework

Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act (2004)

Statutory Instrument No. 2204 Town and Country Planning

(Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 (as amended)

Cranbrook Conservation Area Appraisal Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Adoption Statement

In accordance with statutory requirements, notice is given that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council formally adopted the Cranbrook Conservation Area Appraisal Supplementary Planning Document on 10 June 2010.

The following documents can be viewed on, and downloaded from, the Council's website www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk and they are available for public inspection at, Gateway, Royal Tunbridge Wells and at the Weald Information Centre, The Old Fire Station, Cranbrook during normal opening hours:

- Adoption Statement;
- Cranbrook Conservation Area SPD;
- Boundary map of Cranbrook Conservation Area; and
- Summary of Consultation Responses.

Any person (with sufficient interest) who is aggrieved by the Cranbrook Conservation Area Appraisal SPD may apply to the High Court for permission to apply for Judicial Review of the decision to adopt the SPD. Any such application must be made promptly and in any event not later than three months after the date of adoption (i.e. by 10 September 2010)

For further information about the Cranbrook Conservation Area Appraisal SPD, please contact the Urban Design or Conservation Teams on 01892 554069 or e-mail, planning.policy@tunbridgewells.gov.uk

Jim Kehoe, Head of Planning Services

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990, SECTION 69 CRANBROOK CONSERVATION AREA

Notice is hereby given that, in accordance with the provisions of the 1990 Act, the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, has, by a resolution passed on 10 June 2010, determined that the area described in the Schedule hereto shall be designated as an area of special architectural or historical interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. It has accordingly modified the boundary of the Cranbrook Conservation Area.

The principal effects of the areas being included within a conservation area are as follows:

1. In carrying out any functions under the Planning Acts (and, in particular, in determining applications for planning permission and listed building consent), the Council and the Secretary of State are required to take into account the desirability of preserving or enhancing the special character or appearance of the area.
2. Special publicity must be given to planning applications for development in the area.
3. Six weeks' notice must be given to the Council before works are carried out to any tree in the area.
4. Consent must be obtained from the Council for the demolition of any building in the area.
5. The Council is under a duty to prepare proposals to ensure the preservation or enhancement of the area.

Plans defining the precise boundary of the Conservation Area, together with the Conservation Area Appraisal are appended to the designation report (ref:100610/CAB008) and are available for inspection during normal office hours at the Gateway, Royal Tunbridge Wells, the Weald Information Centre, Cranbrook or via the Councils website at www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk.

William Benson, Chief Executive

SCHEDULE

Land to be included:

Waterloo Road: The Vicarage and garden area to the east Section of land to rear (east) of Cornwallis House

Land to be excluded:

Waterloo Road: Northwest corner of all-weather pitch adjacent to Cornwallis House

June 2010

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

10/02029/LBC **Masters The Green, Brenchley**
Listed Building Consent - Outhouse - Replace all existing windows with double glazed windows (LB)

10/02033/FUL **The Schools At Somerhill Somerhill, Capel**
Replacement of wooden picket fence with 1.8m high green powder coated and galvanised steel palisade fencing (LB)

10/01942/LBC **Shepherds High Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
Listed Building Consent - Creation of two exit holes in rear wall for new boiler flues (LB)

10/02064/HOUSE **The Moat Rectory Lane, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
Construction of glazed link between kitchen extension and converted outbuilding (Amendment to TW/09/03221/HOUSE) (LB) (CA)

10/02067/LBC **The Moat Rectory Lane, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
Listed Building Consent: Construction of glazed link between kitchen extension and converted outbuilding (Amendment to TW/09/03223/LBC) (LB)

10/02074/LBC **Bettenham Manor Bettenham Lane, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
Listed Building Consent - Repairs and alterations (LB)

10/02084/FULMJ **9 Park Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden**
Extension of time - New B1 (office/light industry/research) development including alterations to existing warehouse and demolition of two 1/2 storey warehouse (TW/07/02519 refers) (MAJOR)

10/02061/HOUSE **Medlar House Rye Road, Hawkhurst**
Demolition of a redundant garage to be replaced with a linked annexe building, and the demolition of a conservatory to be replaced with a summer room (LB)

10/02133/HOUSE **Delmonden Grange Delmonden Lane, Hawkhurst**
Extension of Time - Two storey rear extension (TW/07/03302/FUL refers) (LB)

10/02098/HOUSE **Ridge Farm Stables The Down, Lamberhurst**
Loft conversion with 5 velux windows, porch to rear elevation and bi-fold doors to front elevation (LB) (CA)

10/02146/HOUSE **28 Woodside Road Rusthall, Rusthall**
Two storey extension (CA)

10/02089/FUL **Sheffield Hall Sheffield Road, Southborough North**
Conversion of former office building into 3 two-bed apartments (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall
Royal Tunbridge Wells
TN1 1RS

Dated: 10 July 2010

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS
Local Government Act 2000

1. As required by the Local Government Act 2000, each month Kent County Council publishes a Forward Plan of key decisions expected to be taken during the following six calendar months. The definition of a key decision is "an executive decision which is likely to:
   (a) result in the local authority incurring expenditure which is, or in the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates, (the current figure which applies to this is unbudgeted savings or expenditure of £1m.
   (b) be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral division in the area of the local authority.
2. Each Forward Plan contains a list of documents that will be submitted to the decision-makers for consideration in relation to the decisions to be made. Subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, copies of, or extracts from, any document listed in the Forward Plan are available, together with any other relevant documents, from the person named in the appropriate Forward Plan entry.

The dates for publication of this plan during the next 12 months are:

Monday 3 January to 30 June 2011	Friday 1 July to 30 December 2011
Tuesday 1 February to 29 July 2011	Monday 1 August to 31 January 2012
Tuesday 1 March to 31 August 2011	Thursday 1 September to 29 February 2012
Friday 1 April to 30 September 2011	Monday 3 October to 30 March 2012
Monday 2 May to 31 October 2011	Tuesday 1 November to 30 April 2012
Wednesday 1 June to 30 November 2011	Thursday 1 December to 31 May 2012

The Forward Plan of key decisions can be read on www.kent.gov.uk/your council and at the Council's Corporate Library throughout Kent.

Geoffrey Wild, Director of Law and Governance,
Kent County Council, Sessions House,
County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XQ

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High pressure game faced by latest Alfa

By **STEVE LOADER**

THERE really could not be more pressure on Alfa Romeo's newly-launched Giulietta.

It arrives to spearhead celebrations of the cult Italian marque's 100th anniversary and carries one of the most evocative names of that century – the original 1950s/60s Giulietta Sprint is regarded is as one of the most handsome cars the company has produced.

It also arrives in a sector of the market where competition is most fierce and driving pleasure – an Alfa Romeo tradition – is well-catered for by impressive and big-selling rivals like the VW Golf, Vauxhall Astra and Ford Focus – soon to be replaced by an elegant new design.

To cap it all, it is a crossroads for Alfa, painstakingly rebuilt by Fiat despite the parent's own trials and tribulations, but now expected to start delivering.

There has been much talk about Alfa returning to the US market, where memories of the Alfa Spider featured in the famous Dustin Hoffman movie The Graduate, are still strong.

This could be eased by Fiat's recent acquisition of the American Chrysler group, but much will rest on European Giulietta sales – priced in the UK from £16,995.

The signs are good though; Alfa already has two powerful ranges in the elegant 159 executive saloon and its Sportwagon estate spin-off, and in the quite brilliant and curvy MiTo supermini.

The newcomer's styling is no letdown after these two either, with an aggressive yet stylish take on the trademark V-shaped grille and a coupé-look enhanced by the marque's well-established trick of concealing the rear door handles within the door frames.

Nor is beauty skin deep, as the MiTo has already shown; Alfa has worked hard to polish its reputation as a driver's favourite so the Giulietta will feature the same chassis, steering and throttle selector – known as DNA – as seen on the MiTo.

It might sound gimmicky, but it works quickly and simply and allows the car to be set up to suit the driver's mood.

Most of the time, you leave it in Normal, but you can quicken the pulse and the car's responsiveness by selecting Dynamic, while All-Weather come to the driver's aid when conditions turn treacherous – and it all comes as standard.

And while Alfa is remembered as much for its petrol engines – including the high performance twin-spark series – as its styling, the option of sporty diesels from the Fiat association has not harmed the brand revival. The launch range extends from 120bhp 1.4-litre to 235bhp 1,750cc petrol units and from 105bhp 1.6-litre to 170bhp 2.0-litre turbodiesels.

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09 FORD FOCUS TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 650 MILES £14,995
09 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, STEPPE BROWN, 8000 MILES £13,995
09 FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 MILES £12,995
09 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE LWB 5DR HATCH AUTO, BROWN, 5000 MILES £12,995
09 MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 MILES £12,495
09 FORD FOCUS C-MAX ZETEC 145 MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES £11,995
10 FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1400 MILES £11,995
09 SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 MILES £10,495
09 NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1800 MILES £10,495
09 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, BEIGEBUFF, 2000 MILES £10,495
09 NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES £9,995
09 DAIHATSU MATERIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, MAROON, 1900 MILES £9,995
09 VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 MILES £9,495
09 CHEVROLET AVEO LT 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 MILES £8,495
09 KIA PICANTO 2 5DR HATCH AUTO, ORANGE, 2000 MILES £7,995
09 PEUGEOT 107 URBAN 5DR HATCH AUTO, YELLOW, 1500 MILES £7,995
09 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 5000 MILES £6,495

CONVERTIBLES CABRIOLETS

09 MERCEDES-BENZ CLK CLK200 KOMPRESSOR AVANTGARDE CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 13000 MILES £29,950
08 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, INFERNO RED, 7000 MILES £11,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 MILES £10,995
07 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 MILES £10,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 MILES £9,995
06 NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 MILES £9,995
06 NISSAN MICRA CC ESSENZA CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 28000 MILES £9,995
05 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 38000 MILES £8,495
05 VAUXHALL TIGRA SPORT 16V TWINPORT COUPE, BLACK, 25000 MILES £7,995

FIESTA

08 RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, RED, 5000 MILES £13,495
06 FORD FIESTA ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, TONIC BLUE, 1600 MILES £7,495
07 FORD FIESTA STYLE CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 19000 MILES £6,995
02 FORD FIESTA GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 40000 MILES £3,995

FOCUS HATCH & SALOON

09 FORD FOCUS TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 650 MILES £14,995
09 FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 MILES £12,995
08 FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 MILES £11,995
08 FORD FOCUS ZETEC 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 MILES £9,995
08 FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 MILES £9,995
08 FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 MILES £8,995
07 FORD FOCUS SPORT 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 6000 MILES £7,495
05 FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 27000 MILES £6,995
03 FORD FOCUS GHIA SALOON AUTO, RED, 48000 MILES £4,995

FOCUS ESTATES

09 FORD FOCUS C-MAX ZETEC 145 MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES £11,995
07 FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 15000 MILES £7,995
06 FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 MILES £7,495
06 FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V ESTATE AUTO, TONIC BLUE, 18000 MILES £6,995
06 FORD FOCUS LX 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 MILES £6,995
06 FORD FOCUS LX 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 MILES £6,995
06 FORD FOCUS LX 16V ESTATE AUTO, TANGO RED, 21000 MILES £6,995

RENAULT SCENIC

08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIC TD MPV AUTO, EXTREME BLUE, 10000 MILES £10,995
07 RENAULT GRAND SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 136 7STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 15000 MILES £9,995
08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, RED, 6000 MILES £9,995
08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 MILES £9,995
07 RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GOLD, 9000 MILES £8,995
07 RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 136 MPV AUTO, GOLD, 23000 MILES £8,995
08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLACK, 18000 MILES £8,495
08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 MILES £8,495
06 RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT MPV AUTO, BLACK, 16000 MILES £7,995
07 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLACK, 15000 MILES £7,995
06 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 16000 MILES £7,495
06 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GOLD, 16000 MILES £7,495
06 RENAULT MEGANE SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 ESTATE AUTO, GOLD, 17000 MILES £6,995
06 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 MILES £6,495

RENAULT

06 RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 MILES £10,995
06 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 MILES £9,995
06 RENAULT LAGUNA EXPRESSION SPORT TOURER 16V ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 13000 MILES £8,995
08 RENAULT MEGANE EXPRESSION VVT 111 ESTATE CAR ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 600 MILES £8,995
05 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 38000 MILES £8,495
08 RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 750 MILES £7,995
08 RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES £7,995
07 RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 16000 MILES £7,995
07 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 4000 MILES £7,995
07 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 15000 MILES £7,995
06 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT MPV AUTO, GOLD, 21000 MILES £6,995
07 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 MILES £6,495
05 RENAULT MODUS PRIVILEGE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 39000 MILES £4,995

CHEVROLET

09 CHEVROLET AVEO LT 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 MILES £8,495
08 CHEVROLET AVEO LT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 999 MILES £7,995
08 CHEVROLET AVEO LT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 MILES £7,995
09 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 MILES £7,995
09 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 9000 MILES £7,495
08 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 5000 MILES £6,995
08 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 MILES £6,995
09 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 5000 MILES £6,495
07 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 MILES £5,995
08 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES £5,995
06 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 MILES £5,495
07 CHEVROLET KALOS SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 20000 MILES £5,495
07 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 MILES £4,995
06 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 MILES £4,495
05 CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 28000 MILES £3,995

HYUNDAI

08 HYUNDAI GETZ GSI 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 MILES £7,995
07 HYUNDAI ACCENT ATLANTIC LIMITED EDITION 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 MILES £6,995
08 HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 5000 MILES £6,995
06 HYUNDAI GETZ CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 9000 MILES £6,495
07 HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 MILES £5,995
08 HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 24000 MILES £5,995
07 HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, YELLOW, 9000 MILES £5,995
07 HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, YELLOW, 9000 MILES £5,995
06 HYUNDAI GETZ CDX 5DR HATCH, SEASIDE BLUE, 40000 MILES £4,995
06 HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 MILES £4,995
06 HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 31000 MILES £4,995

KIA

09 KIA PICANTO 2 5DR HATCH AUTO, ORANGE, 2000 MILES £7,995
09 KIA RIO STRIKE 5DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 MILES £7,495
08 KIA PICANTO 2 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 MILES £7,495
07 KIA PICANTO LS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 17000 MILES £4,995

DAIHATSU

09 DAIHATSU MATERIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, MAROON, 1900 MILES £9,995
08 DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 MILES £7,995
08 DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 MILES £7,995
07 DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 MILES £7,495
07 DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 MILES £6,995

BMW

05 BMW 3 SERIES 320D ES TOURING TD ESTATE, GREY, 5100 MILES £12,995

FIAT

06 FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 MILES £5,995
07 FIAT PANDA DYNAMIC 5DR HATCH, GREY, 8000 MILES £4,995

FUSION

10 FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1400 MILES £11,995
08 FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 MILES £8,995
08 FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 MILES £8,995
07 FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 MILES £8,995
09 FORD FUSION STYLE CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 MILES £8,995
07 FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 MILES £6,995

CITROEN

08 CITROEN C4 SX 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1800 MILES £9,995
08 CITROEN C3 EXCLUSIVE HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 MILES £8,495
06 CITROEN XSARA PICASSO EXCLUSIVE 16V ESTATE AUTO, RED, 16000 MILES £7,995

MONDEO

06 FORD MONDEO GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 MILES £7,995
06 FORD MONDEO LX 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 24000 MILES £7,995

CORSA

08 VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 MILES £8,995
07 VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 MILES £8,495
08 VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 4000 MILES £7,995
06 VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, MAUVE, 19000 MILES £7,995
08 VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 12000 MILES £7,995
07 VAUXHALL CORSA LIFE AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 MILES £6,995
03 VAUXHALL CORSA ECO 12V 5DR HATCH, GREEN, 29000 MILES £3,495

MAZDA

09 MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 MILES £12,495
08 MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 5000 MILES £10,995
07 MAZDA 3 3 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 8000 MILES £9,995
06 MAZDA 6 6 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 16000 MILES £8,995
06 MAZDA 6 6 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 21000 MILES £8,995
07 MAZDA 2 2 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 MILES £5,995
04 MAZDA PREMACY GSE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 65000 MILES £4,995

SUZUKI

09 SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 MILES £10,495
07 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA VVT + ESTATE 4X4, BLUE, 19000 MILES £8,995
06 SUZUKI IGNIS GL VVT-S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 16000 MILES £5,995
05 SUZUKI LIANA GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 51000 MILES £4,995

TOYOTA

07 TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO T3 VVT-I MPV, RED, 25000 MILES £10,495
07 TOYOTA COROLLA T3 COLOUR COLLECTION VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 MILES £9,995
07 TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 MILES £9,995
07 TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, IXION BLUE, 13000 MILES £9,995
08 TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 MILES £8,995
08 TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 MILES £8,995
07 TOYOTA AURIS T3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 MILES £8,995
07 TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, VENETIAN SILVER, 23000 MILES £7,495
07 TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 13000 MILES £6,995
04 TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 MILES £6,995
04 TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 MILES £5,995

NISSAN

08 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, INFERNO RED, 7000 MILES £11,995
07 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 MILES £10,995
09 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, BEIGEBUFF, 2000 MILES £10,495
09 NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1800 MILES £10,495
09 NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES £9,995
06 NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 MILES £9,995
06 NISSAN MICRA CC ESSENZA CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 28000 MILES £9,995
08 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA PLUS 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 MILES £8,495
08 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, RED, 14000 MILES £8,495
07 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 MILES £7,995
07 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BEIGEBUFF, 18000 MILES £7,495
06 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 MILES £6,995
07 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 MILES £6,995
04 NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, ARUBA BLUE, 9000 MILES £5,495
04 NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 MILES £5,495
03 NISSAN ALMERA TINO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 32000 MILES £4,495

ROVER

03 ROVER 45 IMPRESSION S 3 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 43000 MILES £2,995

ASTRA HATCHBACKS

08 VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE CDTI 8V 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, PANACOTTA, 11000 MILES £12,995
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 HATCH AUTO, SILVER, 9000 MILES £8,995
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 14000 MILES £8,995
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 MILES £8,995
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 2000 MILES £8,495
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 10000 MILES £7,995
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 MILES £7,995
06 VAUXHALL ASTRA SXI 16V TWINPORT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 MILES £6,995
06 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 MILES £6,495

ASTRA ESTATES

08 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, ECLIPSE BLACK, 5000 MILES £10,995
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, PANNACOTTA, 15000 MILES £8,995
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 MILES £8,495
08 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 MILES £7,995
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 MILES £7,995
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 15000 MILES £7,495
06 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 13000 MILES £7,495
06 VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 13000 MILES £7,495
07 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 1800 MILES £7,495
06 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 11000 MILES £6,995
06 VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 20000 MILES £5,995

ZAFIRA MERIVA & AGILA

09 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, BLACK, 750 MILES £14,995
08 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 MILES £10,995
07 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 17000 MILES £9,995
09 VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 MILES £9,495
08 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BEIGEBUFF, 6000 MILES £9,495
08 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 MILES £9,495
07 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, PANNACOTTA, 10000 MILES £8,995
06 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 16000 MILES £8,995
06 VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 MILES £7,995
06 VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 4000 MILES £7,995
05 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 40000 MILES £4,995

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08 PEUGEOT 207 SPORT 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 MILES £8,995
07 PEUGEOT 307 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 17000 MILES £7,995
09 PEUGEOT 107 URBAN 5DR HATCH AUTO, YELLOW, 1500 MILES £7,995
07 PEUGEOT 307 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 MILES £7,995
07 PEUGEOT 206 LOOK 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 2000 MILES £7,995
06 PEUGEOT 307 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, MAROON, 11000 MILES £7,495
06 PEUGEOT 307 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 MILES £7,495
06 PEUGEOT 307 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 MILES £7,495
07 PEUGEOT 206 LOOK 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 4000 MILES £7,495
04 PEUGEOT 206 SE 5DR HATCH, MOONSTONE SILVER, 36000 MILES £4,995

MITSUBISHI

07 MITSUBISHI LANCER EQUIPPE ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 9000 MILES £5,995

HONDA

07 HONDA CR-V I-VTEC ES 5DR HATCH AUTO 4X4, GREY, 24000 MILES £17,995
09 HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 MILES £10,995
07 HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 MILES £8,995
06 HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 MILES £8,495

MERCEDES

09 MERCEDES-BENZ CLK CLK200 KOMPRESSOR AVANTGARDE CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 13000 MILES £29,950
08 MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C180 KOMPRESSOR SE SPORTS COUPE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 18000 MILES £15,995
07 MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C180K AVANTGARDE SE SALOON AUTO, CUBANITE SILVER, 23000 MILES £14,995
09 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, STEPPE BROWN, 8000 MILES £13,995
09 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE LWB 5DR HATCH AUTO, BROWN, 5000 MILES £12,995
06 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 ELEGANCE SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 MILES £11,495
06 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 ELEGANCE SE LWB 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 13000 MILES £10,995
07 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 MILES £10,995
06 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, COMET GREY, 23000 MILES £9,995
07 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE SWB HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 20000 MILES £9,495
07 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE SWB COUPE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 MILES £9,495
03 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A140 CLASSIC SE HATCH AUTO, METALLIC GREY, 25000 MILES £5,995
03 MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A140 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 46000 MILES £5,495

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06 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 MILES £9,995
07 VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 14000 MILES £7,995
07 VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 22000 MILES £7,495
05 VOLKSWAGEN POLO TWIST 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 30000 MILES £6,495
01 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH, RED, 63000 MILES £3,995

DIESEL AUTOMATICS

08 VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE CDTI 8V 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, PANACOTTA, 11000 MILES £12,995
08 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIC TD MPV AUTO, EXTREME BLUE, 10000 MILES £10,995

MORRIS'S MANUAL CARS

05 BMW 3 SERIES 320D ES TOURING TD ESTATE, GREY, 5100 MILES £12,995
07 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA VVT + ESTATE 4X4, BLUE, 19000 MILES £8,995
05 VAUXHALL TIGRA SPORT 16V TWINPORT COUPE, BLACK, 25000 MILES £7,995
09 KIA RIO STRIKE 5DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 MILES £7,495
04 FORD MONDEO ST TDCI 5DR TD HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 45000 MILES £7,495
06 VAUXHALL VECTRA VVT EXCLUSIV 5DR HATCH, SAPPHIRE BLACK, 26000 MILES £6,995
04 TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 MILES £5,995
07 FIAT PANDA DYNAMIC 5DR HATCH, GREY, 8000 MILES £4,995
07 KIA PICANTO LS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 17000 MILES £4,995
06 HYUNDAI GETZ CDX 5DR HATCH, SEASIDE BLUE, 40000 MILES £4,995
04 PEUGEOT 206 SE 5DR HATCH, MOONSTONE SILVER, 36000 MILES £4,995
01 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH, RED, 63000 MILES £3,995
02 FORD FIESTA GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 40000 MILES £3,995
05 VAUXHALL AGILA ENJOY 16V TWINPORT MPV, GOLD, 20000 MILES £3,995
03 NISSAN ALMERA TINO TWISTER S ESTATE, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 34000 MILES £3,495

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USED CARS

AGILA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	58	Agila Club CDTi	1.3	5	Steel silver	10,450	7,995
09	09	Agila Club A/c	1.2	5	Atlanta blue	6,350	7,995
09	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Lemon grass	1,350	9,495
09	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Moroccan blue	1,266	9,495
09	59	Agila Club CDTi	1.3D	5	Steel silver	3,900	8,995
09	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Moroccan blue	5,150	9,495
10	59	Agila Design	1.2	5	Lemon grass	2,790	8,995

ASTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
05	05	Astra Sri Ex Pack	2.0	3	Black sapphire	22,250	7,995
06	06	Astra Active	1.6	5	Ultra blue	37,000	6,750
07	07	Astra Design Auto Estate	1.8	5	Silver lightening	22,190	7,495
07	07	Astra Sri Sports hatch X pack	1.6 TB	03	Flame red	29,810	9,995
07	57	Astra VXR	2.0	3	Arden blue	25,000	13,995
07	57	Astra Sxi Sports hatch CDTi	1.7D	3	Star silver	40,675	8,795
08	08	Astra Design CDTi Auto	1.9D	5	Star silver	22,200	9,695
08	08	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Silver lightening	24,300	9,695
08	08	Astra Sri X Pack	1.8	5	Black sapphire	14,575	9,995
08	58	Astra Breeze	1.4	5	Silver lightening	10,700	8,995
09	58	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Panacotta	12,625	9,995
09	09	Astra Club	1.4	5	Silver lightening	18,218	8,995
09	09	Astra Sri CDTi X Pack	1.9D	5	Star silver	9,710	14,995
09	09	Astra Active	1.4	5	Black sapphire	9,650	9,995
09	09	Astra Breeze Plus CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	14,100	10,495
09	59	Astra Sxi eco flex	1.7D	5	Sovereign silver	3,400	12,995

CORSA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
04	04	Corsa Design	1.2	5	Star silver	63,890	3,995
06	56	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Flame red	38,450	7,495
07	07	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Metro blue	20,655	7,195
08	07	Corsa Club	1.2	5	Flame red	27,810	6,795
07	57	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Star silver	37,900	7,995
08	58	Corsa Active	1.2	3	Black sapphire	7,030	7,995
09	09	Corsa Active	1.0	5	Star silver	6,270	8,475
09	09	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	5	Metro blue	19,970	8,995
09	59	Corsa Life CDTi	1.3D	5	Black sapphire	4,600	9,495
09	59	Corsa Life CDTi	1.3D	5	Star silver	9,950	8,995
09	59	Corsa Active CDTi	1.3D	5	Silver lightening	4,300	9,995
09	59	Corsa Club CDTi	1.3D	3	Metro blue	6,480	9,695
09	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	3	Silver lightening	800	10,495
09	59	Corsa Sxi A/c X pack	1.4	3	Black sapphire	10,150	11,495
09	59	Corsa Life CDTi	1.3D	5	Air blue	7,850	9,395
09	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	5	Silver lightening	4,450	10,495
09	59	Corsa Active	1.2	3	Star silver	7,180	9,395
04	04	Corsa Energy	1.0	3	Black sapphire	42,500	3,695

INSIGNIA & SIGNUM

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	58	Insignia Sri	1.8	5	Black sapphire	12,625	12,995
09	09	Insignia Tourer Exclusive	1.8	5	Black sapphire	9,300	13,995
09	59	Insignia Elite CDTi Nav	2.0	5	Sovereign silver	6,550	21,995
09	59	Insignia CDTi ECO Exclusive	2.0	5	Silver lake	7,350	16,995
05	55	Signum Elite	2.2	5	Star silver	58,800	5,995

MERIVA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
06	06	Meriva Design E/T	1.6	5	Metro blue	33,225	6,495
06	56	Meriva Life A/C	1.4	5	Steel blue	19,730	5,995
09	09	Meriva Life A/c	1.4	5	Metro blue	8,320	8,995

VECTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
07	07	Vectra CDTi Exclusiv +	1.9D	5	Silver lightening	88,375	5,995
08	58	Vectra Exclusive	1.8	5	Black sapphire	15,390	8,795

ZAFIRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
05	05	Zafira Design CDTi Auto	2.0	5	Star silver	53,000	6,495
08	57	Zafira Breeze	1.6	5	Star silver	12,630	8,495
08	58	Zafira Exclusive	1.6	5	Star silver	13,700	9,995
09	59	Zafira Active CDTi+	1.9D	5	Ultra blue	2,880	14,495
09	59	Zafira Design CDTi	1.9	5	Panacotta	2,200	16,995
09	59	Zafira Active Plus	1.8	5	Ultra blue	5,670	13,995
05	05	Zafira Design CDTi Auto	2.0	5	Star silver	53,000	6,495

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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Volvo's German lifestyle target

VOLVO really is going after the Germans.

Famous for producing capacious estates, the Swedish marque has now decided to attack the likes of Audi and BMW by unveiling a sporty lifestyle estate version to follow the smart new S60 saloon arriving in the UK soon.

Looking more like a coupé, billed as a sports wagon and with the driver-pleasing characteristics promised by the saloon, the new V60 will still have a boot offering 430 litres with the rear seats in place – that's on a par with the more conventionally-shaped yet smaller V50 estate.

Engine options will include both diesel and petrol engines and range from a 115bhp DRIVe eco-diesel version to a sporty turbocharged 304bhp T6 model.

Most miserly load-lugger from Skoda

SKODA claims to have produced its most-environmentally friendly model ever – the new £13,740 Fabia Greenline II Estate.

It will never win any prizes for looks, but as a cost-effective load-lugger it is without equal thanks to averaging around 80mpg and emitting a road tax exempt 89g/km of CO2 – it's good for 932 miles on a single tank of fuel, says Skoda.

It uses a new three-cylinder 75bhp turbocharged diesel engine and the Czech make has loaded the car with £800 of extra standard equipment, against the model it replaces, including cruise control, electronic stability programme, stop-start function and tyre pressure monitor.

Curiously, Skoda has decided not to offer the hatchback version of this eco model until October.

It's summer – time for special MX-5

EVER alert to the special and limited edition possibilities of its legendary MX-5 two-seater, Mazda has launched a high spec summer-time Miyako version (from £18,385).

It comes with unique leather trim, climate control, 17-inch alloys, special colours and in both 1.8-litre soft-top and 2.0-litre roadster coupé format.

It also celebrates the 20th anniversary of the world's best-selling roadster – now in its third generation.

Mark Cameron, sales director of Dartford-based Mazda UK, said: "This is the first special edition model based on the upgraded MX-5 that we have offered on both soft-top and roadster coupé body styles. Both models also represent great value, with the 2.0i Miyako costing just £590 more than the entry level 2.0 SE model."

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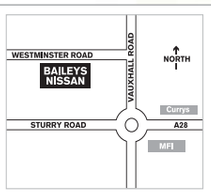

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†Price shown includes £2,000 NBBTS Discount. *Finance available subject to status. Offers available from 01/04/2010 to 30/06/2010 in the UK to persons aged 18 or over. Guarantees and Indemnities may be required. Nissan Finance, a trading style of RCI FS Ltd, PO Box 495, Watford WD17 1FJ. Terms and conditions apply to both Nissan British Built Trade In Scheme and Clear Nissan – please see www.nissan.co.uk or your nearest participating Nissan dealer for full details. The guaranteed £2,000 trade in applies to cars registered in the UK on or before 31st August 2003. Breakdown and services provided by RAC Motoring Services and/or RAC Insurance Ltd. All prices include first registration fee and first year road fund licence. Model shot shown is for illustration purposes only. Refer to dealer for exact specification. Information correct at time of going to press. This advert supersedes any previously advertised offers. Offers shown only apply to Retail sales types. Offers are available at participating Nissan dealers only. Micra shown has metallic paint at £400 inc. VAT. Models subject to availability. Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd, The Rivers Office Park, Denham Way, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, WD3 9YS.

by STEVELOADER

New-look Mini maximises its economy with 74mpg

BMW has opted for a major refreshment of the Mini line-up for September.

The opener will be changes inside and out plus new diesel engines for the established hatchback, Clubman estate and Convertible models.

But this will be followed up by the launch of the all-new Countryman (pictured right) – the first four/five-door Mini and also the first to be offered with four-wheel drive.

The German carmaker has also stated there are two more models to come – one will almost certainly be the controversially-styled coupé body style given a media airing last year.

The other could be simply a crop top or roadster version of the same or – generating more excitement – a stripped down or beach buggy version of the Countryman, echoing the style of the 1960s Mini Moke, made famous by the cult TV series of that era, The Prisoner.

In the current economic climate though, the big news is the two all-new lightweight and miserly aluminium diesels that enable the German-owned UK brand to offer a road tax exempt sub-100gkm CO2 emissions model for the first time.

The new 90bhp Mini One D entry model and 112bhp Mini Cooper D versions achieve the same low fuel consumption of 74.3mpg and CO2 emissions of 99g/km and yet the latter can still hit 62 mph in 9.7 seconds and go on to a top speed of 123mph.

The brand is also wringing the maximum from its name by emphasising the new cars' 'Minimalism' eco features including recovery of energy that would otherwise be lost by braking and automatic start-stop.

Even the most image-conscious Mini buyer can be among the greenest too, now that the line-up includes a diesel Convertible able to average around 70mpg and qualify for the lowest payable road tax band – zero for year one and then £30 a year.

But the biggest news for the revised range is undoubtedly the all-new Countryman (from £16,000) likely to attract new recruits to the brand through its extra space, full five-seat capacity and all-wheel drive option (from £1,065 extra).

The brand estimates that as many as 80 per cent of Countryman sales will come outside the existing Mini ownership, though the newcomer will be the first not to be made by the UK plant at Cowley, Oxford, which is at full capacity according to BMW.

It will be produced instead by renowned Austrian 4x4 specialist Magna Steyr.

Despite the 4x4 option though, Mini is positioning the Countryman carefully as a 'soft-roader' fitting into the trendy new crossover niche exemplified by the Nissan Qashqai.

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DODGE

GK09RVN • 03 09, 10,500 Miles*, Dodge Caliber 2.0 SXT (CVT), Mica Sunburst Orange Pearlcoat, Grey Leather inter, Air Con, CD, ABS, Front Fogs, 9 Speakers, Adjust Steering, Elec Heat/Fold Mirrors, Electric Windows, PAS, ISOFIX Anchorage, £ 9,974

RA57TZW • 12 07, 23,628 Miles*, Dodge Nitro 2.8 CRD SE, Metal Silver, Grey interior, Air Con, PAS, ISOFIX Anchorage, ABS, Elec Heat/Fold Mirrors, Frnt Elec Winds, CD/MP3/DVD, Driver, Air Bags, Elec Stability Programme, Roof Rails, Sunroof, £ 11,995

JEEP

GF56WYH • 11 06, Jeep Commander 3.0 V6 CRD Limited, 26,412 Miles*, Metal Silver, Grey Leather inter, Body Col Bumps, Driver Info, Frnt/Rear Parking Aid, Climate Con, D/P Elec Seats, Elec/Heat Door Mirrors, PAS, Roof Rails, Cruise Con, D/P Heat Seats, Front Fogs, Rad/CD, £ 13,974

GF08LBX • 04 08, Jeep Wrangler 2.8 CRD Sport Unlimited 4-Dr, 32,880 Miles*, Mica Rescue Green, Black interior, Alarm, Elec Stability Prog, Adjust Steering, ABS, Front Elec Winds, PAS, ISOFIX Anchorage, Air Bags, CD/MP3/DVD, 6 Speakers, £ 14,974

KM57HKT • 01 08, Jeep Grand Cherokee 3.0 CRD Limited, 13,000 Miles*, Metallic Silver, Slate Grey Leather int, Body Col Bumps, Heated Seats, Front Fogs, Rain Sensor, Rear Wash/Wipe, Cruise Con, Elec Seat Height Adjust, PAS, Adjust Steering, £ 18,495

CHRYSLER

GF57NBO • 11 07, 20,000 Miles*, Chrysler Grand Voyager 2.8 CRD Executive XS, Metallic Magnesium, Grey Leather, Body Col Bumps, D/P Heated Seats, Front Fogs, Sat Nav, Cruise Con, PAS, Parking Aid, Sunroof, Driver Info Syst, Elec/Heatd Door Mirrors, Radio/CD/CD Autochange/DVD, Roof Rails, 10 Speakers, £18,495

GF08VOD • 05 08, Chrysler 300C 3.0 V6 CRD Saloon, 11,380 Miles*, Metallic Black, Black Leather int, Body Col Bumps, DIS, Front Fogs, Climate Con, D/P Heated Seats, PAS, Parking Aid, Cruise Con, Elec/Heat Door Mirrors, Elec Windows, Radio/CD, 6 Speakers, £17,974

HYUNDAI

GF10DWO • 03 10, Hyundai i10 1.2 Classic, 5-Door Hatch, 10 Miles*, Air Con, Frnt Elect Wind, Adjust Steering, Sunroof, Body Col Bumps, PAS, Split Rear Seats, 3 Rear Seats, ISOFIX Anchor Pnt, CD/MP3, 6 Speaks, Tint Gls £ 6,994

GL09NXP • 07 09, Hyundai i20 1.2 Classic 5-Door Hatchback, 15,000 Miles, Metallic Black Diamond, Black inter, Air Con, CRS Belt, Elec Stability Prog, CD/MP3, ABS, Adjust Steering, Air Bags, Frnt Elec Winds, PAS, Rear Seat, ISOFIX Ancho Pnt, * £7,995

GN09NUK • 05 09,Hyundai Matrix 1.6 GSi 5-Door Hatchback, 8,300 Miles*, Stone Black, Grey inter, Air Con, CRS Belt, Air Bags, PAS, ABS, Electric/Heated Door Mirrors, Radio/CD, Roof Rails, Body Col Bums, Elec Winds, Adjust Steering, 6 Speakers £8,974

GF10DWV • Mar 2010 Hyundai i30 1.4 SE 5-Door Hatch, 5 Miles*, Metallic Silver, Black interior, Air Con, PAS, 6 Speaks, Body Col Bumps, Elec Heat/Fold Door Mirrors, Front Fogs, Adjust Steer, Tint Glass, CD, Elec Sunroof, Elec Winds, Rear Wash/Wipe, Trip Computer, £11,974

GD59DLF • 01 10, 50 Miles*, Hyundai i800 2.5 CRDi Style (170 PS) 8 seats MPV, Metallic Silver, Black Leather interior, Air Con, Fr/Elec Windows, Radio/CD/MP3, 6 Speakers, Body Col Bumps, Elec Door Mirrors, Adjustable Steering, Tinted Glass, Driver Heated Seats, Front Fogs, PAS, Rear Parking Aid, Trip £19,974

*Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of all the above information, including mileage and specification. However, as errors do occur,please do not rely entirely on this information, but check with your Dealer about items which may effect your decision to purchase. Manheim Retail Marketing: 01625 856 000

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09/09 1.3 CDTi Design Diesel Engine, Air Conditioning, Remote Central Locking, Power Front Windows Star Silver Under 6k £9,995
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10/10 Aveo 1.2s 3dr H/B C.D, MP3,A/C, E/F/Windows Silver Demo please call	£6,995	£6,495
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10/10 Aveo 1.4 LT 5dr H/B Auto C.D, MP3,A/C, Electric Front and rear windows, Alloys, front fog lights Sports Blue Demo Please Call	£9,995	£9,595
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08/08 Kia Sorento 2.5XE C.D, A/C, Remote CDL, Leather interior silver Under 17K		£13,995

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Black Magic Metallic 40,055 miles Manual Petrol £6,295*

Vauxhall Vectra 1.8 16v Breeze 5-Door Hatchback
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Artic Steel Metallic 86,467 miles Manual Petrol £4,495*

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DrivingReview

by STEVELOADER

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Fiat Panda

Pandering to leaner and meaner tastes

JUST how much car do you really need? I get asked that a lot nowadays and the answer is, not a lot.

I found out for myself recently during a week on Kefalonia when, as you do, I splashed out on a family holiday to the sun and then skimped on the hire car.

So I found myself piloting the family around the Greek island – famous as the setting for Captain Corelli's Mandolin – in a little Daihatsu Cuore or Charade and marvelling at what this tiny five-door, three-cylinder city car could cope with.

To give you an idea of the terrain, I managed fifth gear just a handful of times, but second and third were hammered with changes on the windy roads and gradients.

When I handed the keys back to the ex-pat running the hire place at the airport, I told him his company must be delighted with the tough little Cuores – not a model available in the UK.

"No mate, the Fiat Panda is everybody's favourite," he said.

"Customers love 'em and they are bulletproof – despite everything that gets thrown at them on the roads here."

Praise indeed, I thought, on an island with roads better suited to 4x4s and where the local standard of driving is more Charlie Cairoli and his clowns than Captain Corelli and his chords – a smaller car makes evasive manoeuvres easier.

Back home and with the Daihatsu's plucky performance still fresh in my mind, I thought I would put the Panda on the spot and Fiat UK was only too happy to take up the challenge.

We agreed that the most basic model in the range, the 1.1-litre Active Eco (£7,665) would be the best equivalent, though it doesn't have air con or an option to have it – you must trade up to the 1.2 Dynamic Eco (£8,565) to get that as standard.

Of course, I have driven several Pandas before, but they were always higher spec versions such as the 1.3-litre diesel and madcap 100HP hot hatch.

Far from feeling that I was driving the hair shirt model, I found the entry car just as enjoyable though, despite its modest 54bhp – the 1.2 develops 60bhp – which requires 15 seconds to haul the Panda to 62mph.

Sure, it looks a little spartan in this guise and there are features I would want, such as the split folding rear seats that come with dearer versions – to complement to the Panda's renowned and van-like cargo options – but it still comes with electric front windows, CD sound system and two-speed power steering that allows easy parking.

With just one in the car, the Panda can be a little firm and fidgety, but it is fun to drive while an average of nearly 60mpg, group one insurance and trifling road tax – zero in year one – give lots more to grin about. I had also forgotten the car's triumph of ergonomics – a gearshift right underneath where the hand falls naturally off the steering wheel.

Of course, despite squared off styling, the five-door Panda is still a compact car so rear legroom is not great and the boot is small when the seats are in place, but this five-door city car is still a marvel seven years after launch – when it also won the coveted European Car of the Year award.

As our man on Kefalonia confirmed, it has an excellent reputation for reliability too, helping to restore much of the new found faith in Fiat after some dark days on the quality front.

There is talk that the current car, built in Fiat's Polish plant, is scheduled for replacement next year, but there must be a strong case for putting that back or not doing much more than a thorough facelift.

Fuel consumption figures for the Fiat Panda 1.1 Active ECO mpg (l/100km) and CO2 emissions: Urban 42.8 (6.6), Extra Urban 68.9 (4.1), Combined 56.5 (5.0), CO2 emissions 119 g/km.

Vehicles are shown for illustration purposes only. These offers supersede all previously advertised offers. Prices correct at time of going to press. Offers are subject to availability. Licenced credit brokers, written details available on request, finance is subject to status. E&OE. 43323

DrivingPortfolio

FIAT PANDA 1.1 ACTIVE ECO £7,665

Driving appeal (OUT OF FIVE)	★★★★
Image	★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
How green?	★★★★★
Road tax	£30/year (zero for year one)
Best rival	Hyundai i10

TheVerdict

DON'T LIKE: the lack of kit on this entry model, but it's easy to trade up – the Panda's still great value

NOT SURE: enough people realise that cars like this deliver most of their needs for very little outlay

REALLY LIKE: how the design has stayed fresh for seven years – it is a still a leader in the city sector

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ALFA ROMEO

147, T-spark, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels cruise control immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, silver, 42700 miles, £5800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

147, T-spark, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels cruise control immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking, silver, 42700 miles, £5800, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

159, JTDM TI, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering, red, 16500 miles, £18500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

159, 1.9 JTDM 16v, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags traction control remote central locking, over 5000 vehicles in group s, 27951 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

159, JTDM TI, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering, red, 16500 miles, £18500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

159, 1.9 JTDM 16v, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags traction control remote central locking, over 5000 vehicles in group s, 27951 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

159, JTDM TI, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering, red, 16500 miles, £18500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

159, 1.9 JTDM 16v, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags traction control remote central locking, over 5000 vehicles in group s, 27951 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

AUDI

A2, 1.4 SE, 2001, abs brakes alloy wheels electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking, silver, 70059 miles, £4000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A2, 1.4 SE, 2001, abs brakes alloy wheels electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking, silver, 70059 miles, £4000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A2, 1.4 SE, 2001, abs brakes alloy wheels electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking, silver, 70059 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, 2.0 TDi 170 QUATTRO, 2007, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer remote central locking, meteor grey, 23009 miles, £15000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A4, TDI TDV S LINE Geartronic, 2008, grey metallic, 27000 miles, £17500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A4, TDI Quattro 170 SE, 2007, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys cd player cruise control diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, silver-metallic, 52000 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A4, 1.9 TDI 115 SE, 2008, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys central locking diesel drivers airbag immobiliser remote central locking, blue, 69518 miles, £12990, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A6, 2.0 TDI SE, 2006, grey, 104559 miles, £9490, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A6, 4.2 quattro se tip, 2005, grey metallic with grey full leather, 37000 miles, £11950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

TT, T Quattro (225), 2000, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag, green, 40085 miles, £8500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

TT, T Quattro (225), 2000, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag, green, 40085 miles, £8500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

BMW

1 SERIES, 116i SE 5dr, air con, parking sensor, power steering, electric mirrors, abs, twin air bags, cd player, colour coded body, metallic paintwor, electric front windows, traction control, remote central locking, isofix, front fog lamps, folding rear seats, rear headrests, 17'' alloys, sonora metallic, 58000 miles, £7949, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 320d, 2003, abs brakes air cond alloys central locking immobiliser power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, grey green, 93000 miles, £4600, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 318 SE, 2004, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags reverse parking aid sports seats traction control remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, green metallic, 59000 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 318 Ci SE, 2002, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloys central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering, mauve/purple, 58279 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

X5, 3.0d sport auto, 2005, black metallic with black dakota sport leather, 88000 miles, £13950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

X5, 3.0 sport auto, 2003, grey metallic with full sport black leather, 56000 miles, £10950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

Z4, SPORT, 2006, alarm fitted central locking climate control electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering single cd player sports seats tinted glass traction control spotlights auto headlights and wipers blind spot monitor, black, 38000 miles, £14000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

Z4, SPORT, 2006, alarm fitted central locking climate control electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering single cd player sports seats tinted glass traction control trip computer spotlights auto headlights and wipers blind spot monitor, black, 38000 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

AVEO, LT, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, black, 20523 miles, £5495, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

AVEO, LT, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, black, 20523 miles, £5495, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

AVEO, LT, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, black, 20523 miles, £5495, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KALOS, SX, 2005, abs brakes drivers airbag electric windows power steering, silver, 48000 miles, £3000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KALOS, 1.2 S, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking isofix child seat points, silver, 27000 miles, £3000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KALOS, 1.4 SX, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering split folding rear seats tonneau cover remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 23102 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KALOS, 1.2 SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking, blue, 6693 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

LACETTI, SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels central locking electric windows metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, denim blue, 17331 miles, £5070, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

LACETTI, 1.4 SE, 2007, abs brakes electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking, blue, 13232 miles, £5000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CHRYSLER

PT CRUISER, 2003, silver metallic with dark taupe leather, 57000 miles, £2950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

PT CRUISER, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cruise control electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking, silver, 36236 miles, £5000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

PT CRUISER, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cruise control electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking, silver, 36236 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

VOYAGEr, LTD AUTO, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking cruise control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights half leather trim heated seats immobiliser power steering trip computer remote central locking, silver, 73000 miles, £6500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

VOYAGER, LTD AUTO, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking cruise control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights half leather trim heated seats immobiliser power steering trip computer remote central locking, silver, 73000 miles, £6500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CITROEN

BERLINGO, Multispace Forte 16v, 7849079, power steering, abs, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, electric front windows, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, twin air bags, radio cassette, blue, 11800 miles, £6495, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, Multispace Xtr HDi, 7893079, air conditioning, power steering, cd player, radio, remote central locking, remote alarm, privacy glass, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, electric front windows, adjustable steering column, cloth upholstery, twin air bags, abs, grey, 53600 miles, £5995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, Multispace Forte 16v, 7901079, power steering, abs, electric front windows, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, radio cassette, adjustable steering column, cloth upholstery, twin air bags, blue, 25900 miles, £5995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

C1, 3, qj57hrd, power steering abs, red, 23000 miles, £5495, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C1, 1.0i Vibe 5dr Hatch, pas, abs, radio/cd, passenger airbag, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, front head restraints, cloth seat trim, steel wheels, rear wiper, blue, 18035 miles, £6495, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C1, Vibe, 2008, abs brakes cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering remote central locking, red metallic, 14500 miles, £5500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, red, 55 miles, £11100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, grey, 6978 miles, £11200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, silver, 50 miles, £10990, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, black, 50 miles, £10980, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, VT, 2010, abs brakes cd player drivers airbag multiple airbags power steering, blue, 2010 miles, £5601, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, cd player central locking electric windows, red, 50 miles, £11000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C2, 1.6, 2008, red, 50 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 1.6, 2008, red, 50 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 1.6, 2008, black, 50 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 1.6, 2008, gold, 55 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C2, 16v, 2008, cd player central locking electric windows, gold, 55 miles, £12980, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

C3, 1.6, 2008, black, 50 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C3, 1.6, 2008, blue, 50 miles, £11000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C3, 1.6, 2008, red, 50 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C3, 1.6, 2008, black, 50 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C3, 1.6, 2008, blue, 50 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C3, HDi LX, 2004, blue, 86000 miles, £3938, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

DAEWOO

MATIZ, SE Plus 5dr, ke53lba, immobiliser, power steering, central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, electric windows, 14'' alloys, aluminium silver, 26000 miles, £2699, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

DAF

LF, 45.150 Refrigerated Chiller Freezer, ke56cxl, reep body with triple rear doors. thermo king fridge. single phase electric standby. temperature recorder. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 60000 miles, £12995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

FIAT

500, 1.2 Lounge 3dr Hatch, gk59vjg, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, drivers airbag, space saver spare wheel, isofix child seat anchor points, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, audio remote control, silver metallic, 2444 miles, £9995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

500, Sport, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, bossanova white, 16400 miles, £10495, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

500, Pop, 2010, abs brakes alloys cd player central locking electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, bossanova white, 1000 miles, £9995, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

500, Pop, 2008, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering sports seats remote central locking, black, 5000 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16100, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16100, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, black, 50 miles, £16100, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, black, 256 miles, £14000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

DOBLO, Mulitjet, 2010, abs brakes cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows, beige, 370 miles, £15995, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

DOBLO, Multijet Eleganza, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, beige, 2000 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

DOBLO, 1.4 DYNAMIC, 2007, abs brakes air con alloys cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering tonneau cover trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, metallic red, 16000 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

DUCATO, Multijet, 2009, white, 20000 miles, £11500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

DUCATO, 2.2 (30) SWB 100, 2009, abs brakes cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser power steering side load door remote central locking, white, 10000 miles, £10000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

DUCATO, 2.2 (30) SWB 100, 2008, abs brakes cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering side load door remote central locking, silver, 45000 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FIORINO, 1.3 SX, 2009, abs brakes cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering side load door remote central locking, grey, 4632 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIORINO, 1.3 SX, 2009, abs brakes cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering side load door remote central locking, grey, 4632 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FIORINO, 1.3 SX, 2009, abs brakes cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering side load door remote central locking, grey, 4632 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

GRANDE PUNTO, 2007, cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering tonneau cover twin airbags front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking, red, 29000 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

GRANDE PUNTO, 2007, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player trip computer twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, metallic new wave blue, 8900 miles, £6000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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SAAB 9-3 1.9TiD Vector Sport , 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Diesel, 2006 56 Reg , 112,000 miles, Metallic grey. Heated door mirrors, Folding rear seats, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Cruise control, Steering wheel rake adjustment, Front electric windows, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, ABS, Sports seats, Front fog lights, Front head restraints, Passenger airbag, Reverse parking aid, Remote central locking, Drivers airbag, Anti theft system, Adjustable steering column/wheel, Child locks, Leather seat trim, Service indicator, Park distance control, Locking wheel nuts, Trip computer, Navigation system, Multi function steering wheel, Space saver spare wheel, Electric mirrors, Alarm, Body coloured bumpers, Front armrest, Rear armrest, PAS, Air conditioning, CD, Central locking, Climate Control, Colour coding - Body, Foglights, Full Service History. Insurance Group:12, Fully intergrated Navigation system, Mobile phone Bluetooth connection. Buisness Pack. 6 Speed gearbox,.....**£6,995**

SAAB 9-3 1.8T Linear Sport , 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol, 2005 05 Reg , 63,277 miles, Metallic Grey, 2 Owners. Heated door mirrors, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Cruise control, Front electric windows, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, Multi function steering wheel, Audio remote control, ABS, Cloth seat trim, Front head restraints, Front fog lights, Passenger airbag, Reverse parking aid, Remote central locking, Height adjustable drivers seat, Drivers airbag, Service indicator, Cloth upholstery, Trip computer, Alarm, Body coloured bumpers, Front armrest, Part Service History, Rear armrest, PAS, Air conditioning, Central locking, Climate Control, Computer, Park distance control, Power assisted steering, Remote locking. Insurance Group:12, ...**£6,195**

SAAB 9-3 1.9TiD Linear , 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Diesel, 2006 06 Reg , 70,763 miles, Metallic BLUE, MOT-04-2011, 2 Owners. ABS, Air conditioning, Heated door mirrors, Folding rear seats, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Steering wheel reach adjustment, 3x3 point rear seat belts, Steering wheel rake adjustment, Alloy wheels, Multi function steering wheel, Full Service History, Immobiliser, Cloth upholstery, Side airbags, Front electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, Audio remote control, Cloth seat trim, Isofix child seat anchor points, Front head restraints, Passenger airbag, Remote central locking, Drivers airbag, Service indicator, Space saver spare wheel, Alarm, Front armrest, Rear armrest, Traction control, Body coloured bumpers, PAS, Trip computer, Height adjustable drivers seat, Anti theft system, Child locks. Insurance Group:12, Bluetooth phone connection.....**£6,295**

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FORD

FIESTA, Finesse 16v 3dr, 7965079, power steering, abs, twin air bags, central locking, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio, silver, 48000 miles, £3995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCI, 3907182, remote central locking, power steering, abs, air bag, colour coded body, rear wash/wipe, radio, white, 50000 miles, £5495, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Style New Shape, 2008, abs brakes cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering remote central locking, grey, 13087 miles, £9700, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, avalon grey, 16548 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FOCUS, LX, 2007, non standard colour, 21117 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FOCUS C-MAX, 2007, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags, non standard colour, 40537 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS C-MAX, 2007, non standard colour, 29478 miles, £13325, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS C-MAX, 2008, black, 50 miles, £17000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS C-MAX, 2008, red, 50 miles, £17000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

GALAXY, 2.0, 2008, cd player central locking electric windows front fog lights multiple airbags, silver, 9 miles, £26500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

GALAXY, 2.0, 2008, alarm fitted central locking, silver, 10 miles, £26500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

GALAXY, 2.0, 2008, central locking electric windows half leather trim, silver, 10 miles, £26500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3i COLLECTION, 2005, abs brakes central locking immobiliser metallic paint, blue, 33000 miles, £3000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3 70, 2003, drivers airbag immobiliser power steering, over 5000 cars in group stock, 48300 miles, £2500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3, 2008, cd player immobiliser, silver, 55 miles, £14550, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3i 70, 2003, blue, 35500 miles, £3000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3i, 2003, electric windows, silver, 23162 miles, £3000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KUGA, 2.0, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking climate control electric windows immobiliser, white, 50 miles, £25000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KUGA, 2.0, 2008, black, 50 miles, £25000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KUGA, 2.0, 2008, blue, 50 miles, £25000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KUGA, 2.0, 2008, cd player cruise control leather interior power steering, noir, 10 miles, £20000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.5v6 ghia x auto, 2000, silver metallic with black leather, 107000 miles, £1575, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

MONDEO, Zetec, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cruise control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering remote central locking, silver, 26600 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

MONDEO, zetec, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, grey, 8798 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.5, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser, silver, 55 miles, £25000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

HONDA

ACCORD, 2.2 i-CTDi EX, 2007, abs brakes air con alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering tinted glass curtain airbags remote central locking, flint grey, 45294 miles, £11000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ACCORD, 2.2 i-CDTi EX, 2007, abs brakes air con alloys cd player climate control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player leather interior power steering satellite navigation remote central locking remote audio controls, bronze, 21051 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ACCORD, 2.2 i-CTDi EX, 2007, abs brakes air con alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering tinted glass curtain airbags remote central locking, flint grey, 45294 miles, £11000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

ACCORD, 2.2 i-CDTi EX, 2007, abs brakes air con alloys cd player climate control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint mp3 player leather interior power steering satellite navigation remote central locking remote audio controls, bronze, 21051 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CIVIC, i-VTEC EX, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering, grey, 32000 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CIVIC, SE, 2002, abs brakes air con central locking multiple airbags power steering single cd player remote central locking, silver, 69000 miles, £4000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CIVIC, Type S, 2005, air cond alloys cd player central locking electric windows full service history metallic paint multiple airbags remote central locking, silver, 28300 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CIVIC, SE, 2001, abs brakes air con alarm fitted central locking drivers airbag electric windows, red, 84500 miles, £2600, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CIVIC, ES, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted alloys cd player central locking climate control diesel electric windows full service history metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, silver, 34300 miles, £11000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CR-V, Sport, 2006, 4x4 abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control electric windows metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags remote central locking, black, 39106 miles, £11000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CR-V, 2.0i V-TEC SE SPORT, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats remote central locking, black, 94000 miles, £6000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

JAZZ, 1.4 SE, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows full service history metallic paint multiple airbags power steering remote central locking, silver, 44500 miles, £5300, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

JAZZ, SE, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer twin airbags isofix child seat points blind spot monitor, silver, 11100 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

JAZZ, 1.4SE, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors power steering, black, 8500 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

JAZZ, 1.4SE, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows full service history metallic paint, silver, 26500 miles, £5800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

JAZZ, 1.4S, 2002, abs brakes central locking full service history immobiliser, blue, 43000 miles, £4000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

HYUNDAI

ACCENT, CDX 5dr Auto, air con, abs, power steering, electric windows, sunroof, remote central locking, remote alarm, centre armrest, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, twin air bags, radio cassette, alloy wheels, green, 89600 miles, £1495, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

ACCENT, MVI, 2003, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, silver metallic, 53000 miles, £2500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

ACCENT, MVI, 2003, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, silver metallic, 53000 miles, £2500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

AMICA, GSI, 2006, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering, red, 41153 miles, £3700, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

AMICA, GSI, 2006, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering, red, 41153 miles, £3700, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

COUPE, SE, 2001, silver, 82000 miles, £3499, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

GETZ, 1.4 GSi, 2007, air conditioning automatic transmission central locking, blue, 9963 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

GETZ, GSI, 2004, blue metallic, 57000 miles, £3000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

GETZ, 1.4 CDX, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering tonneau cover remote central locking isofix child seat points, silver, 23201 miles, £6000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ISUZU

RODEO, Jiffy Pica Hot & Cold Catering Truck, vk54lzl, cd player, remote central locking, power steering, immobiliser, only 4800 miles from new! jiffy pica snack van. large rear entry hot display. large fridge display. aluminium silver, £11995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

RODEO, 2.5 TD Denver Max Double Cab, 2006, alarm fitted cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering, silver, 53000 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

RODEO, 2.5 TD Denver Max Double Cab, 2006, alarm fitted cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering, silver, 53000 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

RODEO, 2.5 TD Denver Max Double Cab, 2006, alarm fitted cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering, silver, 53000 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

IVECO

CARGO, Eurocargo Tector 75E17 Tilt/Slide & Spec Lift, hx04wec, cloth upholstery, dual passenger seat, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, electric windows, cruise control, colour coded body, cd player, lastest version. euro 3. lez compliant. independent 2nd car spec lift. hyrodlic winch. congestion charge exempt. white, 100 miles, £19495, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

DAILY, 35C12 3+4 Double Cab Double, nx56eae, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, dual passenger seat, power steering, abs, tow pack, radio, white, 33000 miles, £8000, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

DAILY, 50c14v Refrigerated Chiller, cu06cdy, side load door, high roof, dual passenger seat, air bag, abs, radio cassette, power steering, immobiliser, 5.0 tonne gvw. massive payload!. carrier equipment. electric standby. grp lined. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 60000 miles, £7995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

DAILY, 35S12 2.3hpi MWB Hi-Roof, bd57efj. remote central locking, cloth upholstery, bulkhead, side load door, barn doors, dual passenger seat, ply-lined, power steering, abs, air bag, cd player, radio, for more details please call our brands hatch branch on 01474 853034, white, 51000 miles, £7495, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

S-TYPE, V6 Sport Diesel, 7935079, air conditioning, dual climate zones, full leather, remote alarm, remote central locking, centre armrest, electric seats, head restraints, height adjustable seat, rear armrest, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, parking sensor, power steering, trip computer, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, electric windows, electric mirrors, cd player, radio, alloy wheels, blue, 71000 miles, £9995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, V6 SE Auto, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, quartz, 79618 miles, £10000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, V8 R Auto, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, pacific blue, 27110 miles, £19000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, V8 R(Euro 4), 2005, central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, ultraviolet, 39694 miles, £14500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, V6 SE Auto, 2007, automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, midnight, 23628 miles, £16500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, 2.0D XS LE, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player climate control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history half leather trim immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid traction control trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, blue, 75656 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, SE 2009DPF, 2010, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys automatic cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, black, 4116 miles, £23650, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, Sovereign 2009, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, grey, 9262 miles, £23500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, SE 2009DPF, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, silver, 8160 miles, £19975, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KIA

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 56 miles, £16100, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 TD Sr, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser satellite navigation, red, 55 miles, £16200, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 55 miles, £16200, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16220, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 39 miles, £16000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, red, 44 miles, £16200, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 44 miles, £16100, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 TD Sr, 2008, blue, 164 miles, £16000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 TD Sr, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser, red, 55 miles, £16200, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, red, 44 miles, £16200, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 44 miles, £16100, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CEED, 2.0, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16600, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CEED, 2.0, 2008, black, 55 miles, £16500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CEED, 2.0, 2008, red, 99 miles, £16500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CEED, 2.0 CRDi Sport, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser leather interior, silver, 44 miles, £16700, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CEED, 2.0, 2008, black, 44 miles, £16600, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CEED, 2.0, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, silver, 55 miles, £16750, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

RIO, 5, lc58rgv, insurance group 4 abs air conditioning alloy wheels body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd steering wheel rake adjustment, clear silver, 5178 miles, £8695, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

RIO, 5, kk57nze, insurance group 4 abs air conditioning body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd steering wheel rake adjustment, sapphire blue, 8000 miles, £7995, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, 110 TD High Capacity 40 000 miles, f839ngm, power steering, tow pack, 4x4, just one owner and only 40, 000 miles. sign writing on sides can be removed. road tax (plg) is £205 per year. eastnor green, £6995, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DEFENDER, 110 County Station Wagon, r705jua, cd player, power steering, remote alarm, tow pack, privacy glass, sunroof, alloy wheels, 4x4, 12 seater. road tax (plg) is £205 per year. bonatti grey metallic, 102000 miles, £9995, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DEFENDER, 90 TD5 Hard Top, cv07fyd, power steering, tow pack, 4x4, road tax (lgv) is £200 per year. price is £12, 495 + £2, 186.63 vat = £14, 681.63 total. keswick green, 53000 miles, £12495, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

FREELANDER, 2001, blue, 81223 miles, £4500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FREELANDER, 2001, 4x4 abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights heated seats immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, blue metallic, 97000 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

RANGE ROVER SPORT, 2006, black metallic with magnolia leather, 71000 miles, £19950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

LDV

MAXUS, Lwb 3.5/95 Refrigerated Chiller With Standby, bv57hru, dual passenger seat, side load door, cd player, air bag, abs, remote central locking, power steering, immobiliser, electric windows, grp lined. gah fridge. electric standby available if required. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 26000 miles, £9995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

MAXUS, 2.8/95 Refrigerated Chiller, bu07eao, dual passenger seat, side load door, cd player, remote central locking, electric windows, electric mirrors, air bag, grp lined. gah fridge. temp recorder. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 32000 miles, £6995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

MAXUS, 2.8/95, ae07bwx. remote central locking, cloth upholstery, power steering, electric mirrors, electric windows, cd player, radio, dual passenger seat, bulkhead, ply-lined, side load door, barn doors, white, 22000 miles, £5995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

LEXUS

IS, 2.0 SE 200, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering traction control curtain airbags remote central locking, blue, 51212 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

IS, 2.0 SE 200, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering traction control curtain airbags remote central locking, blue, 51212 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

IS, 2.0 SE 200, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering traction control curtain airbags remote central locking, blue, 51212 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

LOTUS

ELISE, S, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player, black, 11000 miles, £26000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

ELISE, S, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player, silver, 11000 miles, £25500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

ELISE, SC TOURING, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted central locking climate control electric windows front fog lights full service history metallic paint leather interior sound pack sports seats sun roof tinted glass, blue, 6000 miles, £27000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

ELISE, 1.8 S, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights metallic paint leather interior power steering sports seats tinted glass tonneau cover remote central locking, grey, 18247 miles, £17000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

ELISE, 111R TOURING WITH AIRCON HARD, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows full service history metallic paint mp3 player leather interior multiple airbags single cd player sound pack sports seats tinted glass twin airbags, laser blue, 3000 miles, £28000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

ELISE, type 25 sc, 2009, air conditioning cd player central locking electric windows full service history mp3 player leather interior multiple airbags single cd player sound pack tinted glass traction control, green, 200 miles, £32000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

MAZDA

2, 1.4 TS, 2004, red, 5817 miles, £4500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

2, 1.4, 2008, red, 55 miles, £11900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

2, 1.4, 2008, black, 55 miles, £13100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

2, 1.4, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £13200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

2, 1.4, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, green, 44 miles, £13000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

2, 1.4, 2008, blue, 44 miles, £12900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

2, 1.4, 2008, black, 44 miles, £12800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

2, 1.4, 2008, red, 50 miles, £11800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

3, 1.6, 2008, abs brakes cd player drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, black, 44 miles, £21000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

3, 1.6, 2008, blue, 44 miles, £20900, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

3, 1.6, 2008, red, 44 miles, £20800, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

5, 2.0, 2008, green, 55 miles, £17900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

5, 2.0, 2008, black, 55 miles, £17800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

5, 2.0, 2008, black, 55 miles, £20900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

5, 2.0, 2008, red, 55 miles, £20800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

5, 2.0, 2008, red, 44 miles, £17900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

5, 2.0, 2008, black, 44 miles, £17800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

5, 2.0, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £17900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

5, 1.8, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking drivers airbag immobiliser, red, 44 miles, £21000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

MX-5, 1.8, 2002, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering, black, 33454 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

IT'S an inventive issue this week, with wind-up radio creator Trevor Baylis featured in the Big Interview and news of clever initiatives on Kent tourism and helping firms capture as much new offshore wind farm business as possible.

And check out My Business Week, by the man running a company offering tours on board the incredible Segway personal transporter. There's also news of a company MD who is going a 'Long Way' to raising £35,000 for one of the county's favourite charities, Demelza.

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Tourism tales needed from 'ambassadors'

SOME 1.6 million people who live in Kent are seen as potential ambassadors for an ambitious and possibly unique tourism campaign launched this week, ***writes Steve Loader***.

My Kent – Real Faces, New Places aims to capture online inspirational stories of those who love living and working in Kent, and use them to attract visitors from all over the world.

The opinions include those from personalities such as leading chef Gary Rhodes and Tom Hart-Dyke, who endured kidnapping in South America but has since created a world garden at his family's ancestral home, Lullingstone Castle.

PASSION: Amanda Cottrell of Visit Kent

But the thrust of the campaign is to allow anyone in the county to upload their stories, favourite places and inside knowledge of Kent, draw on the experiences of past tourists and also be a showcase for potential new ones.

The website – www.mykent.co.uk – is pitched as the online counterpart to the Kent Contemporary poster campaign co-ordinated by award-winning tourism promotion agency Visit Kent.

It is part of a three-year campaign backed by £400,000 from Kent County Council to underpin a county tourist industry already worth £2.5 billion and tipped to do better as more opt for 'staycations' instead of going abroad.

Cllr Kevin Lynes, KCC's cabinet member for regeneration and economic development, said: "We invited Visit Kent – the county's private-public sector partnership strongly backed by businesses – to deliver this campaign. With the support of Kent's tourism businesses and now residents, we believe this takes destination marketing to a new level."

He told his own favourite tale at the launch and added: "Kent is bursting with these stories – about the pride, pleasure and sheer passion of living and working in Kent. We want our 1.6 million residents to tell their stories – who they are and why they love their county – and use My Kent – Real Faces, New Places to become ambassadors for Kent."

Visit Kent chairwoman Amanda Cottrell said: "Using the passion people have for our county is a tremendously powerful way of promoting Kent and a first on this scale."

And she added that the cultural offerings would grow with this month's opening of the No1 Smithery museum at Chatham Historic Dockyard, the Turner Contemporary at Margate (2011), the new Marlowe Theatre and St Gregory's concert hall in Canterbury, the Folkestone Triennial and the world-class Golf Open at Sandwich.

MY KENT

Gary Rhodes

Celebrity chef Gary Rhodes has added his own thoughts to the new www.mykent.co.uk site:

"I spent most of my childhood in Gillingham, going on to train at Thanet College, but having been away and set up restaurants in other parts of the country and the world, I have now settled back in Kent with my family.

"My two boys love the county, just as I did growing up, with all of the fantastic places to visit and things to do. They love getting outside and being energetic, getting stuck into things like Go Ape at Bedgebury and Leeds Castle, or learning to surf at Joss Bay.

"And of course you can't forget the wealth of delightful pubs and restaurants, many serving delicious fresh Kentish produce, perfect after an active day out."

Airport setback as Gordon bales out

LYDD Airport's £25 million bid to expand has suffered another setback with the resignation of MD Jonathan Gordon, just as the operation prepares for a public inquiry battle.

His departure follows cancellation of planned flights to Jersey due to lack of demand, and reported losses of almost £2 million in the airport's latest accounts.

The airport appeared revitalised last August when Mr Gordon returned as MD, after an earlier spell at the controls, driving the proposed runway extension and new terminal project through to approval by Shepway council in March.

But it was a stormy victory and a vociferous protest campaign – largely on conservation and environmental grounds – has forced the Government to review the project and set the scene for another tough confrontation.

Despite the awkward timing, Mr Gordon insists his resignation is amicable and he supports the project fully and will continue working at the airport,

JONATHAN GORDON

where he is also boss of his own Lydd Air operation. In a statement, he said: "The airport's senior management team will now take a more hands-on role and, particularly with my other airline and global aviation consultancy commitments, I thought that it would be in overall best interests if I stand down.

"I believe the airport has a great future and will become an important part of the local economy, with job creation and economic prosperity. I will certainly be supporting it and we will continue with our long-term airline development plans based at Lydd.

"I wish the company all the best for the future – we have parted good friends."

Despite the tone, there will be speculation and comparison with the departure of his predecessor, who quit in September, 2008, after "differences" with shareholders.

Zaher Deir stood down as MD after five years and expressed the "deepest regret and sadness", but blamed his actions on problems with shareholders and a member of the board of directors of London Ashford Airport, which runs the business.

Mr Deir said at the time: "The board and I had different visions relating to the future direction of the airport and associated aviation services based here.

"It's regrettable that we cannot agree a united way forward and I felt it was time to hand over the reins."

Comment

INVENTOR Trevor Baylis was in Kent the other day – see our Big Interview – talking about how Britain must get back to inventing, making and exporting.

And for once, the infectiously enthusiastic creator of the Freeplay wind-up radio was not being original – it's a familiar message.

But we've lost the plot; where old-style Britain's trading and business acumen paved the way for the inventions that sparked the industrial revolution, we have regressed to rely on asset appreciation and invisible financial export earnings.

Meanwhile, self-confessed eccentrics like Baylis have had to fight hard for funding and to keep control of their inventions.

But as Google boss Eric Schmidt said last week, it's time Britain and Europe started liking and nurturing 'crazy entrepreneurs' rather than money-making suits.

He asked: where are our equivalents to Apple's Steve Jobs? Having co-created the groundbreaking computer company, Jobs was famously sacked when it faltered, only to return in triumph and bang out world-beaters such as the iPod, iPhone and iPad.

Far from wearing a suit, Jobs' favoured work gear is a black turtleneck, battered jeans and sneakers.

Microsoft creator Bill Gates affects a corporate image now, but still can't help looking like the same computer geek and Harvard dropout who has ended up bossing his industry.

Where are our crazy entrepreneurs? We have the 'flambouffant' Sir Richard Branson whose 'big thing' now is trying to make space travel affordable… for the rich; and vacuum cleaner re-inventor James Dyson, but we need many more.

And the irony is that just when we need genius to get the UK moving again, I keep hearing how hard it is to borrow from banks hell-bent on rebuilding capital after recent excesses.

As Google's Mr Schmidt told a Daily Telegraph interviewer: "You've got to have the crazy entrepreneur types, who you've got to celebrate, which we do in America. And you've got to have the venture capital, which really is 'at risk' capital and is different from other capital.

"Jobs are created by the private sector, not by the public sector. Wealth is created by the private sector, not by the public sector. If you are going to have great companies you have to be willing to support and encourage the creation of real wealth-generating capitalists. That means you have to put up with them."

STEVE LOADER, BUSINESS EDITOR

CAROL LYNCH: 'Living in Kent is a great privilege'

Foundation boss Carol in the pink

CHARITABLE grant agency the Kent Community Foundation has appointed a new chief executive. Carol Lynch of Kings Hill, near West Malling, succeeds Eric Watts OBE of Maidstone, who resumes his role as a trustee.

The foundation, based at Evegate, near Ashford, raises funds from philanthropic individuals and organisations and has distributed more than £12 million to some 4,000 projects since its formation nine years ago, benefiting tens of thousands of people in Kent.

Last year alone it had a charitable income approaching £4m, with £2,866,000 distributed in grants to 504 organisations across Kent and Medway.

Carol graduated as a civil engineer and began her career in industry, working for MottMacDonald and then Balfour Beatty on major projects such as the Channel Tunnel and Limehouse Link in east London.

She made a career change into the voluntary sector 16 years ago and has worked for various charities including Womankind Worldwide, YMCA and Teacher Support Network.

For the past seven years, Carol has been MD of Social Enterprise Worklife Support, which provides training and support programmes in schools.

She said: "I regard living in Kent as a great privilege. I've been committed to the voluntary sector for a long time and this was an opportunity for me to work for Kent's communities.

"What attracted me to the foundation was that it has a charitable heart but a businesslike approach and recognises that people do want to support local causes and strengthen their communities."

Take One takes over

TAKE One Media of Ashford, rated the UK's No1 leaflet distribution company, has expanded into the east of England with the takeover of visitor display specialist Leisure Target, ***writes Steve Loader***.

Leisure Target, based near Norwich, has grown dramatically over the last 13 years to cover Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and Essex.

Both sides are highlighting the mutual benefits from the deal. Take One has gained from greater representation in the east of England, while its new acquisition will benefit from joining a bigger organisation delivering financial stability and investment in development of products and services offered.

Leisure Target partners Andrew and Karen Hird continue for now with their company on a consultancy basis, with operations director David Flowerdew, taking charge.

Take One MD Philippa Harris said: "Leisure Target is market leader in the east of England – one of the most important tourism regions in the UK – and brings additional value to Take One by adding more coverage across the area and into Essex.

Andrew Hird said: "It is, of course, business as usual at Leisure Target. Karen and I feel in the current economic climate and with the many challenges Leisure Target faces as a result, the business will grow more easily to the next level with the support Take One can offer."

Take One Media has been operating for 26 years and is regarded as the leading literature display and distribution company for the UK tourism and leisure sector.

TARGET ACQUIRED: Staff at Leisure Target in Norfolk

Recent innovations, include a unique PDA (personal digital assistant) device giving clients immediate feedback on leaflet distribution, plus a new consumer website (www.dayvisits.co.uk) guide to attractions across the UK.

It also runs a series of tourist publications: Xperience London; Xperience the South East; and Somerset Things to See and Do. Take One operates from six regional centres and is part of the Orbital Marketing Services Group, which specialises in communications, logistics and promotional solutions.

Seller's market for land

SIGNALLING a welcome upturn, well-funded developers are back in the market for land with or without planning permission, according to Kent-based land specialist and advisor RPC Land and New Homes.

And with available development land also at a premium, this places landowners in a strong position. RPC's MD Peter Randall (pictured) said: "Landowners who have been waiting for the market to pick up could find now is the right time to make a move."

Recent Government announcements and speculation over future policies have boosted the seller's market, he said.

"We know gardens are to have their designation changed from brown to green field land. That means the shortage of available plots is predicted to get worse.

"With changes to the planning system also imminent which could make permissions harder to come by, plots which already have consent are particularly valuable."

But, with future Government policy by no means settled, timing could be crucial, said Mr Randall.

To view, search 'business' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Steve Loader reviews business news and developments from around the county

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BUSINESS WEEK

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DESPITE a pledge that the UK will cut carbon emissions by 34 per cent before 2020, a study by GE Capital shows that small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Kent and the South East are less focused on this since the recession.

There has been a 33 per cent fall in interest and only 14 per cent of SMEs now back the effort with significant investment, most preferring to consolidate their finances. However, not all sectors have shown such apathy to green investments. SMEs in manufacturing, IT, telecoms, media and construction have all continued to cut emissions.

When it comes to changing their stance, South East SMEs believe the carrot is better than a stick: 34 per cent want better tax breaks and 30 per cent want direct eco funding to get them back on a green track.

GILLINGHAM FC's ladies' side are wearing a 'for sale' sign on their shirts as they hunt sponsorship deals ahead of the 2010-11 season.

It is the first time Gills' ladies have looked for shirt sponsors and they are also offering other corporate/promotional benefits.

Director of football Martin Andrews said: "This presents a fantastic chance for a company to sponsor the number one women's football team in Kent."

Prospective sponsors can contact him at gillinghamladies@yahoo.co.uk

JOINED-up thinking by Kings Hill developer Liberty Property Trust UK will minimise traffic disruption on the A228 near the office, housing and leisure development.

The road was due to be closed for six weeks from July 26 for essential gas main replacement work by Southern Gas Networks (SGN). Regular users would then have faced further disruption due to future works to improve the junction between the same road and Gibson Drive.

As developer of Kings Hill near West Malling, Liberty had a planning obligation to undertake those improvements, but after SGN's proposals were raised, it spoke with Kent Highways Services about bringing forward this project to consolidate rather than add to the disruption.

Liberty MD Andrew Blevins said: "We could only achieve this joined-up thinking with the help of Kent Highways, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and Russet Homes, all of which have progressed the necessary approvals to ensure that these works take place in a coordinated way."

Gibson Drive at the junction of the roundabout will be closed from July 26 until August 31, though alternative access will be maintained to nearby businesses and homes.

REAL ale quality and service at The Old Wine Vaults in Faversham, has earned a coveted Cask Marque seal of approval.

Assessors arrive unannounced and check a freshly-pulled pint's temperature, appearance, aroma, taste and even the glass.

But there can be no resting on laurels as there are regular unannounced visits to follow up this accolade. Nuala Brenchley-Sayers, who runs the pub with business partner David Thompson, also chose to offer real or cask-conditioned ales from the Hopdaemon Brewery in nearby Newnham.

She said: "As the beer only travels a few miles it is not only fresh – remember cask ale is a fresh product with a limited shelf life – but this reduces the carbon footprint while supporting a local business."

Uplifting web opportunity

A WIND of change started to blow across Kent this week – the UK's first interactive online business directory for the offshore wind industry, ***writes Steve Loader***.

The portal www.kentwindenergy.co.uk aims to help Kent firms to pitch for work as the offshore wind industry expands in the Thames Estuary and southern North Sea.

The directory has been developed through Backing Kent Business backed by Thames Gateway (Kent) Chamber of Commerce and Kent County Council, in collaboration with the new London Array wind farm.

Phase one of London Array will consist of 175 wind turbines generating enough power for 472,500 homes and displacing about 1.2 million tonnes of CO2 a year.

It highlights how the offshore wind industry is one of the fastest growing business sectors in the UK, but now also needs a supply chain.

The online facility's backers identified a potential gap in would-be contractors' understanding of the needs of the sector.

The site/directory works both ways by providing the principal offshore wind contractors with somewhere to search for and source their supply chain requirements, while also acting as a registry for companies that can supply those requirements. There is also background information on the site about the development of offshore wind projects around the UK.

Cllr Kevin Lynes, KCC's cabinet member for regeneration and economic development, said the offshore wind industry could be worth £8 billion a year by 2020, with up to 70,000 jobs covering manufacture, operations and maintenance, research and development.

"The more we can do to promote and support Kent-based businesses to be a part of this new economy, the more we define Kent as a leader in renewable technology," he said.

"Kent businesses need to stake their claim on a share of this market via the portal.

"KCC began the Backing Kent Business campaign in partnership with business and the public sector to provide help for the county's business community during a difficult and prolonged recession.

"This new directory is just the first of many products to emerge from this dynamic and innovative partnership."

Thames Gateway (Kent) Chamber of Commerce chief executive Tracey Manley said: "The website directory has been created so it is user-friendly and easy to register company information on. Plus it has the bonus of information on how this new sector will roll out over the coming months giving Kent business the knowledge they need to plan and prepare for possible contracts."

'Long Way' ride with Boorman

FATHER-of-six and MD of The Generator Company in Rochester, Jayson Stickings, is embarking on a 5,000km motorbike challenge alongside Charley 'Long Way' Boorman and Geordie stand-up comic Ross Noble.

He is funding his travels himself and aims to raise £35,000 for Kent-based children's hospice Demelza when he sets off for the gruelling challenge on August 15 – a 16-day ride from Cape Town to Victoria Falls.

His target covers the cost of employing one nurse for one year in Demelza's hospices at Sittingbourne and Eltham. Jayson can be sponsored via www.justgiving.com/Jayson-Stickings.

The Bexley man's day job is as boss of a company that sells and installs generators and power solutions as well as maintaining, upgrading and offering temporary power solutions. The business grew 30 per cent last year, mostly through UK turnover, and employs 30 people.

AFRICA TRIP: Jayson Stickings with Charley Boorman, left, and Ross Noble, right

En route through Africa he will be in the company of an expert in globetrotting, Charley Boorman – actor and son of film director John Boorman – who already has a list of tough assignments behind him.

He joined fellow actor Ewan McGregor in the epic Long Way Round and Long Way Down motorcycle TV series and also starred solo in the Race to Dakar and By Any Means TV show.

Jayson, 42, is already in fitness training and aims to lose three stone before he sets off, while also enduring a taste of off-road motorcycle training in Wales.

The self-confessed 'born-again biker' returned to riding just recently, but had been a regular user for 10 years. He told Business Week: "I got involved through a mutual contact with Charley and we got talking at the big bike show in London in January. He's a great bloke, hugely enthusiastic, and I'm really looking forward to it, but I also wanted to do something for Demelza.

"I've got six kids of my own, it's my company's chosen charity and I admire Demelza and all the staff for the support, care and commitment they give to the families. Hopefully by raising as much money as I can on the trip, it will go some way in helping out."

Blue, silver and gold

BLUEWATER – the Kent shopping and leisure centre – continues to defy the gloom and doom on the High Street.

Where some shopping centres report faltering sales and boarded-up outlets, Bluewater has opened three new stores this month and also picked up three trophies at a retail awards ceremony.

The latest arrival is luxury lifestyle clothing and accessories brand Juicy Couture, which has chosen Bluewater for only its second UK standalone store, following the success of its flagship Mayfair boutique.

Juicy Couture (pictured right) was founded in Los Angeles but now has a presence in 60 countries.

Fashion label Ce Me London has also used Bluewater for its debut outside the capital and timed it to perfection with "a collection of hot summer frocks".

And we reported last week that the Charles Tyrwhitt mail order shirt company has continued ambitious retail expansion by choosing Bluewater for its 13th store.

The centre now claims to feature 330 of the best UK and international brands, 50 restaurants and bars, 13,000 free parking spaces, 50 acres of parkland, and seven lakes. It attracts 28 million visitors a year.

Bluewater won two gold awards and one silver at the International Council of Shopping Centres (ICSC) Solal Marketing Awards.

Out of 152 entrants from 18 countries, Bluewater took two of seven golds. These were in the Business to Business and Public Relations categories: for the 'Bluewater. No Comparison' trade campaign and the Jenson Button/Virgin Media Speedweek50 event respectively.

The silver was awarded for Bluewater's unique apprenticeship scheme in the Cause Related Marketing category.

Marketing chief David Wilkinson said: "The ICSC Solals are highly respected and very influential and we are proud to have been recognised in three categories. This is a fantastic achievement for the team that worked on the campaigns."

Bluewater now qualifies automatically for entry into the ICSC Maxi Awards.

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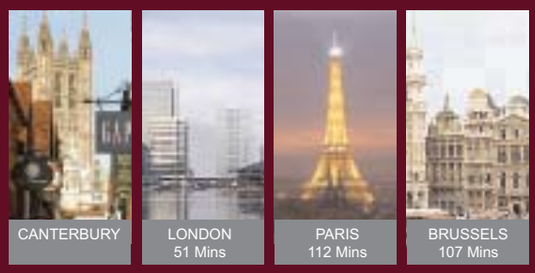

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'My Business Week …'

By Nick Thurston (below), proprietor of Southern Segway

MONDAY – another busy weekend for our tours at Leeds Castle, so every one of our 11 Segway personal transporters must be rigorously checked before it is handed to customers, who start to arrive just before tours begin at 10.30am. Most pre-book via our website and many have already done the tour several times – riding a 'Seg' can be addictive.

We've offered tours at the castle for two years and they have taken off because people can get to parts of the grounds and enjoy views they wouldn't normally see. Peak season is April to September, but we run a reduced winter schedule, weather permitting.

TUESDAY – took calls from fellow operators as we step up our lobbying for the Segway to be legalised for use in public places. It isn't permitted because it lacks a brake handle or lever. But if you ride one, you soon realise it doesn't need a brake because it 'senses' you stopping, as you would if you were on foot and about to bump into someone.

However, we are making progress – helped by the fact Segway is now British-owned. I'd be surprised if it wasn't legal by the end of the year.

WEDNESDAY – a busy day and not over yet. My daughters are guides and brownies, so I'm doing my bit by taking Segways to their meeting.

One of the local scout groups is also coming along. We take Segs to a scout event in Essex every year and they love it. Legoland's annual Amazing Machines show in September is another regular in our busy calendar.

THURSDAY – nice feedback from members of a castle tour party.

Several said: "Thanks for being the family photographer". Tour manager Alex Clark and I always offer to use customers' cameras to take pictures of them on the Segway on the castle trails. As a family man, I know the 'snapper' usually misses out on being in the photo album.

A disabled woman, who would have had difficulty getting to parts of the castle grounds, told me how much she had enjoyed getting on a Seg and joining her friends on the tour. If we can get the Segway legalised, it would liberate so many people and, in my opinion, is safer than some mobility vehicles free to use pavements and shopping areas.

FRIDAY – a chauffeur-driven Range Rover turned up to deliver two Segways for check-ups. It underlines how many owners are well-heeled and often own several – a new one costs nearly £5,000.

The demand for used ones is strong, too. I've got a waiting list of 20 desperate to get one for less money, but people are reluctant to part with a Seg once they get one.

Inventor Trevor's anger at 'cuckoo' treatment of our brightest and best

Wind-up radio inventor Trevor Baylis OBE arrived in Kent to deliver an inspirational talk – Come Let's Innovate – at an event staged by BIG (Business Innovation Group) – an increasingly influential partnership including the Kent Invicta and Thames Gateway chambers of commerce and the University of Greenwich. It was fascinating and instructive for an audience of businesspeople and entrepreneurs seeking to develop new ideas and products. Business editor STEVE LOADER caught up with Trevor afterwards for more top tips and hints

TREVOR BAYLIS

KOSmedia BUSINESS WEEK

THE BIG INTERVIEW

WHO Dares Wins – the famous motto of the SAS – could also belong to Trevor Baylis. Not least because the inventor is a mine of sayings and mottos himself, but also because he never shirks a challenge.

Though rightly famous as the inventor of the Freeplay wind-up radio – a forerunner for much of the sustainable eco technology now being developed – he describes himself as a showman or "born show-off".

Aged 73, he is still a regular public speaker and has been a lab technician, swimming pool company salesman and proprietor, Army PT instructor, stuntman and circus performer, as well as an inventor.

Along the way, he also built his own house on Eel Pie Island in the River Thames at Twickenham, inspired by fond memories from his youth, when he attended legendary jazz concerts at the ramshackle hotel then standing on the island. The passion for invention never dims though and, after bitter experiences along the way, he also set up Trevor Baylis Brands to help other would-be inventors avoid the pitfalls of bringing a clever idea to the market – they can start by downloading a free inventor pack from his site.

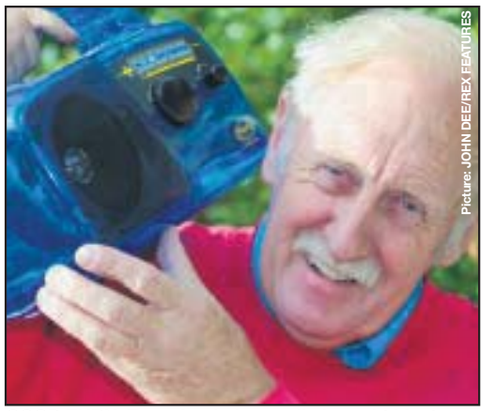
"It can be a lonely road and after all your effort and, sometimes, a lot of money, you can find that your bright idea just isn't going to take off.

"We've handled about 6,000 ideas [at Trevor Baylis Brands] and the majority had either been done before or were so similar to something already out there that they weren't worth pursuing, but there are about seven or eight currently under development or coming to market.

"It infuriates me though that this country is so brilliant at inventions and so appalling at developing them – we treat our inventors as clowns and cuckoos.

"I'm very anti-Dragons' Den, for instance. It's humiliating for a lot of the people who go on it with their inventions. It's their first time in the 'sunshine' and they can end up being made to look like buffoons."

He has fonder memories of the former BBC science showcase Tomorrow's World (1965-2003) though: "If it hadn't been for that show my wind-up radio would never have taken off. I'd been turned down by the Design Council and nobody seemed interested until I got my own moment in the sunshine on Tomorrow's World and then all the same people were phoning me up and giving me all this bull about how wonderful my idea was."



Picture: JOHN DEE/REX FEATURES

GOOD TURN: Trevor's wind-up radio brought him to national attention after a Tomorrow's World feature

The idea for the radio came about in 1989 while watching a TV programme about the spread of Aids in Africa and a suggestion that education via radio programmes would help, but for the lack of power sources in far-flung parts of the continent.

Even as the programme was still running, Trevor had cobbled together a working prototype from bits and pieces in his workshop. "I struggle to throw things away that may have some use in them," he admitted.

Nevertheless, it was not until the 1994 appearance on Tomorrow's World that the project took off, underlining the struggle any inventor faces.

The radio remains his most famous invention and consumer spin-offs followed – some now feature solar panels – though he is quick to point out that it has not made him fabulously rich because it was designed to be a charitable venture.

He continues to come up with ideas and concepts and thought he had another winner with electric shoes to

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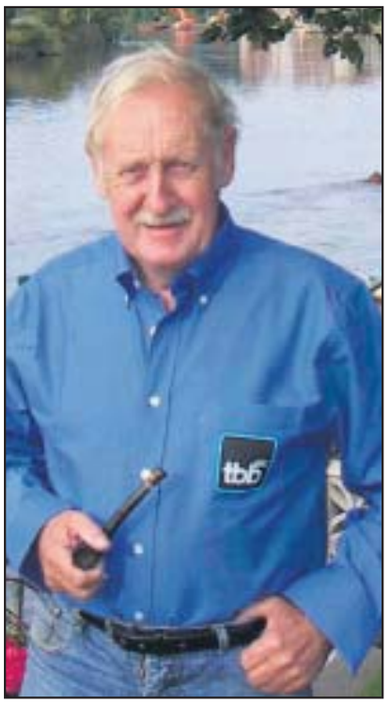
keep a mobile phone or radio charged.

Ever the showman, he demonstrated this idea with a 100-mile walk across a desert in 2001, but admitted ruefully: "Unfortunately, it was a time when airport security people started taking a particular interest in anything unusual concealed in your shoes."

His knack for tinkering with ideas stemmed from childhood: "I just loved Meccano. I don't think I could write my name at four or five, but I could make things from Meccano and it's still useful for an inventor."

He grew up in the London suburb of Southall, where he studied engineering at a local college. He was also a keen swimmer and



narrowly missed selection for Great Britain at the 1956 Melbourne Olympics and he and future friend Rolf Harris – another star swimmer in his youth – both commiserate over how they narrowly missed out on competing against one another at the Olympiad.

His talent proved useful later though when he became a swimming pool salesman: "We were doing a show one day and sales were slow so I asked the boss if I could have a dip. It became a regular hit. It was just me being a show-off – I've never been camera shy."

He went on to form a swimming display team and then work as a stuntman and circus performer, specialising in an underwater escape act. When a high wire performer broke her back, he was inspired to create products for disabled people, but he lost title to these – his first lesson on patenting and protecting inventions.

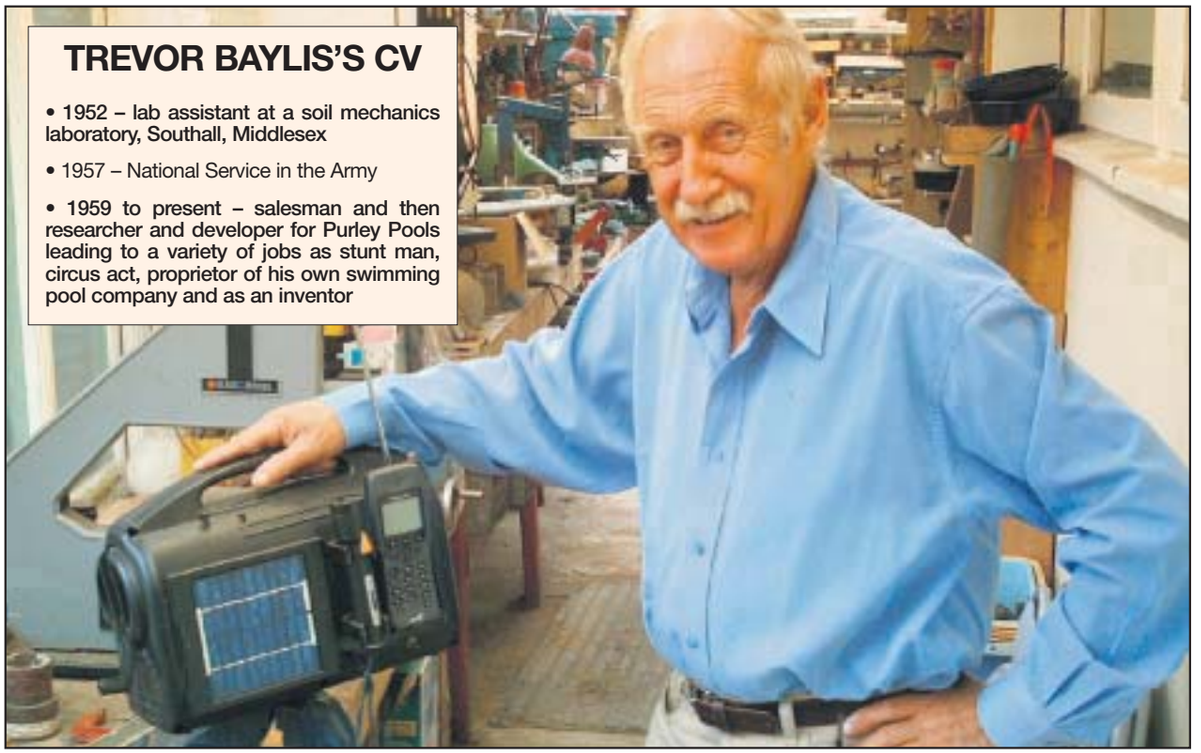
"I was brought up to trust people after a firm handshake and a smile and found out the hard way that I was being naïve."

Asked what he thought was now the most fertile ground for budding inventors, he not surprisingly singles out alternative power and admits to being a fan of electric cars, though he runs a Range Rover and vintage E-Type Jag: "You could say they're not green, but I don't have to drive to work every day.

"If I did, I would get an electric car, though the idea of going into an office appals me."

TREVOR BAYLIS'S CV

- 1952 – lab assistant at a soil mechanics laboratory, Southall, Middlesex
- 1957 – National Service in the Army
- 1959 to present – salesman and then researcher and developer for Purley Pools leading to a variety of jobs as stunt man, circus act, proprietor of his own swimming pool company and as an inventor



IN HIS ELEMENT: Trevor Baylis in the workshop with his Freeplay radio, and left, at his Eel Pie Island home in the River Thames at Twickenham

TREVOR'S TOP TIPS

- Keep a lid on it – "If you come up with a good idea, don't go down the pub and tell everybody.

"For a start someone could pinch it, but it can also then be said to be in the public domain so you can't patent it. Get advice."

- Don't be cowed by reputation or status – "I don't mind anyone looking down on me, as long as they don't mind me not looking up to them."

- Keep it simple – "Some of the simplest inventions are the best – such as the zip fastener – and many have come from women, such as the windscreen wiper and Kevlar body armour.

"The glamorous film actress Hedy Lamarr, for instance, helped invent a guidance system for torpedoes. Not enough credit is given to female inventors."

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Excellence earns its true reward

WINNERS of the Kent Excellence in Business Awards (KEiBA) celebrated their success in front of a packed audience at Chatham Historic Dockyard.

Eleven businesses and individuals from 34 finalists, were in turn chosen from 200 business and individual entries.

The winners were:

- Large Business of the Year – SCIPAC, Sittingbourne;
- **SME Business of the Year – XMO Strata, Marden;**
- Start-Up Business of the Year – VirtualGym TV, Rochester;
- **Best Adult Social Care Business – DGSM yourChoice, Dartford;**
- Best Leisure and Tourism Business – English Wines Group, Tenterden;
- **Best Business from Creative Industries – Wonderful Creative Agency, Maidstone;**
- Employer of the Year – Denne, Sittingbourne;
- **Commitment to the Community – Denne, Sittingbourne;**
- Customer Service and Commitment – HolidayExtras.com, Hythe;
- **Entrepreneur of the Year – Paul Gardner, Rochester;**
- Young Entrepreneur of the Year – Charmaine Alicia Kemp, Dartford.

There was also a special award to Douglas Horner for Outstanding Contribution to the Business Community of Kent.

A Kent Ambassador and Deputy Lieutenant, Mr Horner also had a 32-year career at Maidstone law firm Brachers, was an adviser to the National Farmers' Union and vice-president of the Kent County Agricultural Society.

Kent County Council is one of the organisers and cabinet member for regeneration and economic development Cllr Kevin Lynes said: "It's great to see we have so many outstanding businesses and entrepreneurs.

"All the entrants were of a high standard and the winners are truly exceptional. I think this shows that Kent is the place to do business."

IoD calls for nominations

BUSINESS leaders in Kent are being urged to enter the Institute of Directors' (IoD) prestigious 2010 London and South East Director of the Year awards.

Open to members and non-members of the IoD, the awards bring together company directors from various industries and backgrounds.

Kent businessman Paul Winter, of Wire Belt in Sittingbourne, was among last year's winners. His firm manufactures wire conveyor belting and conveyors and he said after his win: "I was very proud to receive this award, especially as there are directors of many small and medium enterprises who will have faced similar challenges and equally deserve this acknowledgement."

John Minards of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, major sponsor of the 2010 competition, said difficult economic times made it all the more relevant to reward success: "Over the past 12 months, directors have faced some of the most challenging economic conditions in memory.

"Never has it been more important to recognise and celebrate business leaders who continue to manage through the downturn and ensure business emerges fit for the future."

Submit your online nomination at www.iod.com/south/awards. The deadline for is 5pm on October 1, with the awards dinner on March 22, 2011, in London.

BEWL Water has refurbished its Lakeside Suite and is now targeting Kent businesses with a mix of conference facilities and team-building events. The suite includes a terrace overlooking the reservoir, near Lamberhurst, while attractions include the treetops and zip wires of the adrenalin zone, hydro-balling (pictured), fly fishing, raft-building,and canoeing.

Everyone's a winner with workshop waste formula

CONSTRUCTION and demolition projects in Kent create an astonishing 70 per cent of the county's landfill waste, ***writes KOS Media business editor Steve Loader***.

Yet nearly all this material could be reused, recycled, or have the energy recovered from it instead, while avoiding landfill disposal costs which have soared to a record £48 a tonne and are set to climb higher.

The figures are quoted by Pathway To Zero Waste (PTZW), a partnership between the South East England Development Agency, Environment Agency and WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme), which has invited building firms to a free workshop in Maidstone on Friday, July 16, to help them cut costs and win new business by slashing the amount of material they send to landfill.

"Some of the largest construction companies in the UK are diverting more than 95 per cent of material from landfill on their projects, on a regular basis," said Dr Chindarat Taylor, director of PTZW.

"Through our workshop, we want to share their best practice approaches with small and medium-size building firms in Kent, so that they can enjoy the substantial cost savings that a zero-tolerance approach to waste can bring. Delegates will learn how to forecast volumes of waste generated by construction projects, and the tools and techniques that they can employ to turn those tonnes to 'nones'."

Showing potential clients how costs can be reduced and the environmental performance of their projects improved by diverting waste from landfill can help firms win more work.

"Increasingly, clients expect suppliers to show how they are keeping costs down and reducing the environmental impact of their activities," said Dr Taylor.

"Minimising waste scores on both counts. It avoids hefty disposal costs and keeps skip lorries off the road, reducing fuel consumption and carbon emissions.

"It also reduces demand for increasingly scarce natural materials that are needed for new building products – everybody benefits."

The workshop venue is the Best Western Russell Hotel, Boxley Road, Maidstone. It runs from 9am-12.30pm and includes breakfast.

To book, contact Drena Cox on 01242 577277 or email dcox@camarguepr.com. For more on PTZW, visit www.ptzw.co.uk.

WHAT A WASTE: Financial and environmental costs are high

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Creative to the core with Rubens

FRUIT growing might never be the same again in the Garden of England after the appointment of a PR agency and plans to use social networking to promote the new Italian Rubens apple variety now planted in Kent.

Some 140,000 Rubens trees had been planted across the county by this time last year and fruit marketing group Norman Collett of Paddock Wood is poised to launch a massive push for the new crop.

It has appointed homegrown Kent agency, WAC PR and Marketing of Cranbrook for the big push.

WAC – Write Angle Communications – already has a good track record after campaigns and events for Biddenden Vineyards, the Michelin-listed Swan restaurant in West Malling and the Head in the Clouds luxury meringue company. It currently represents Produced in Kent, which champions 175 food and drink producers in the county.

The agency will be promoting the Rubens' reputation as a high-quality, high-yield tree, producing an apple with good taste and texture that also stores well.

Supermarkets including Tesco, the Co-op and Morrisons are already aware of the variety's possibilities after the 2008 crop sold out within four weeks. Plans to build the Rubens market will now involve a proposed social networking programme, promotion at the National Fruit Show in October, a high-profile campaign in the mother and baby market and several creative nationwide competitions with the supermarkets.

Sarah Calcutt, business development manager at Norman Collett, said: "With the Rubens apples offering consumers great flavour, a crisp texture and a popular medium-sized apple that sits cost effectively alongside higher priced varieties – we are excited about what we can achieve during 2010 with the creative input and expertise of WAC PR and Marketing."

TASTY: Steven Jones and Sarah Orton of WAC get their teeth into the Rubens account

ALL THAT GLISTERS: Hadlow College's gold medal Food 4 Thought garden and (inset) triple-award winning Crown Jewels arrangement

Awards jewel in the crown

HADLOW College scooped awards at the prestigious RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show.

The college's floral arrangement, Crown Jewels, was a show stealer, taking three awards: Best Exhibit, Best College, plus an overall gold medal – the only one presented to a college in this category.

Hadlow's topical entry in the Small Garden category, Food 4 Thought, gained a gold medal and the Best Small Garden Exhibit award. Higher Diploma floristry students created a striking arrangement based on the Crown Jewels in the Tower of London, with a display of red and white roses growing between Victorian railings to signify the royal houses of Lancaster and York.

Concept

The display concept came from Laura Finlay, a lecturer at Hadlow College, who co-ordinated and directed the project.

Food 4 Thought was designed by former Hadlow student Mandy Buckland from an idea devised by Mark Lumsdon-Taylor, the college's director of finance.

Year two degree students constructed the garden under the project management of Brian Hawtin, another former Hadlow student who now lectures at the college.

The garden was designed to highlight major population growth combined with food and water shortages, global warming and rising sea levels coupled with the need for a step up in production and status for UK farming.

NEXT WEEK: Business Week Spotlight will focus on hospitality, travel and tourism

England can make impact on best in the world, says Seymour

BELIEF: Natalie Seymour is confident in England's Championship Trophy chances Picture: ADY KERRY

A YEAR on from an eye-opening debut in the Champions Trophy, Natalie Seymour heads into this year's edition with renewed belief England can make an impact against the world's best, ***writes David Pritchard***.

The prestigious annual six-team hockey tournament gets under way in Nottingham this weekend.

It is the first time England has hosted the Champions Trophy, which also features Argentina, China, the Netherlands, Germany and New Zealand.

Last year's competition, which was held in Sydney, was Seymour's first taste of senior international tournament.

Selected as part of a youthful squad, the Canterbury ladies defender played in every game as England's inexperienced side finished last.

Since then the national set-up has undergone a dramatic change, with Seymour part of a 28-strong Great Britain squad training full-time at the National Sports Centre at Bisham Abbey, Hertfordshire.

The Champions Trophy marks the first real litmus test of the centralised training programme, which began last September. Seymour, who has now amassed 34 international caps, is confident the hard work will show over the next week.

She said: "As a squad we have come so far since [Sydney] and on a personal level, I have gained a lot of experience.

"Last year we probably had three or four weekends together, but since September we have been training three times a week.

"I think being able to spend so long on the pitch every week has been the biggest help. My awareness and comfort on the ball has improved. Going into the tournament you know you've put the time in and it gives you the confidence to be able to play."

The Trophy, which concludes next Sunday, is one of the few opportunities the players will have to play in front of a home crowd under tournament conditions before the Olympics.

With the World Cup and Commonwealth Games to follow this year, it marks the start of a milestone in the countdown to London 2012.

Pictures: ADY KERRY

STRUGGLE: Lisa Dobriskey will aim for 1500m gold, despite injuries that stopped her hitting top form this season

Duo picked to be Euro stars for GB

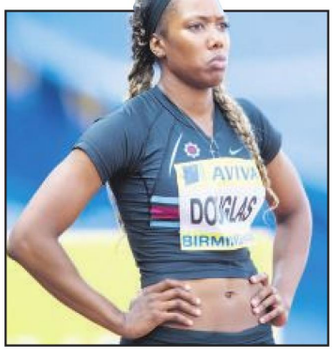
County athletes in Barcelona medal bid

By TOM HOWARD

ELITE Kent athletes Lisa Dobriskey and Montell Douglas will vie for medals this month after being selected in the GB squad for the European Athletics Championships.

The pair are part of Great Britain's squad of 72 announced on Tuesday which will head to the championships in Barcelona on July 27.

Dobriskey, who has her eyes firmly set on winning 1500m gold, will breathe a sigh of relief after a number of niggling injuries have hampered her outdoor season progress. The 27-year-old world silver medallist from Ashford finished third in the UK Championships and European Trials final in Birmingham two weeks ago.



IN THE FAST LANE: Montell Douglas, British 100m record holder

Despite limited outings this season, she is edging towards her best form and was in action in the Diamond League events at Lausanne, Switzerland on Thursday and Gateshead on Saturday.

For Douglas, the announcement would have come as a surprise as she has only just recovered from a serious knee injury which had threatened to completely rule her out of the European Championships.

The 24-year-old Blackheath & Bromley 100m sprinter was part of the Great Britain 4x100m relay squad for the 2008 Beijing Olympics and last year's World Championships.

She spent the back end of last season and the majority of this year sidelined by injury and only returned to competitive action at the UK Championships where she failed to qualify for the final.

However, she posted a time of 11.40 seconds in Switzerland last week, but it is still some way off her career-best and British record of 11.05 seconds set two years ago.

Teen tastes Wimbledon defeat

A RISING tennis star got a taste of the big time by reaching a Wimbledon final last weekend, despite suffering from mumps.

Lewis Burton, 18, reached the final of the boys' doubles final with partner George Morgan. Taking on Liam Broady and Tom Farquharson, it was the first all-British final in any Wimbledon event since 1961. Played in front of a big crowd on Court One, they were edged out 7-6, 6-4.

Although the campaign ended in disappointment, the Bromley teenager was delighted to reach the showpiece, particularly while not fully fit.

He said: "It was a really good experience, but I was in a lot of pain because my face had swelled up quite a lot. It didn't affect me too badly, we had to play well to get to the finals, it was just hard to sleep at night.

"Playing on Court One was special, we had Hawk-Eye and a big crowd watching us, which was very enjoyable."

Burton has been threatening to make an impact for some time, reaching the final of last year's national under-18 championships.

Since last autumn the teenager has been training at the National Tennis Centre at Roehampton, Surrey, but his formative years were spent at the Bromley Tennis Academy.

Picture: JAMES JORDAN LTA

CONCENTRATE: Lewis Burton

Clint Harris, director at the academy, said: "Everyone has been talking about it. He's an inspiration to the other kids and it certainly gives them a belief there's a strong chance of following in his footsteps if they work hard."

Cricket at Canterbury

Sunday 11 July Friends Provident t20
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TOUGH TIMES: A car crash and wrist injury hampered Zane Scotland's progress Picture: ADY KERRY

Scotland lines up return to the Open

Player who became the youngest ever to qualify for the championship, returns after an 11-year spell in the golfing wilderness

By DAVID PRITCHARD

MORE than a decade after bursting on to the scene as a teenager, Zane Scotland makes a long overdue second Open Championship appearance next week after a torrid few years.

A glittering career appeared to beckon when Scotland became the youngest player to qualify for the Open in 1999, just before his 17th birthday. No-one would have predicted it would take him until 2010 to return to the sport's grandest stage.

The 11 years in between have been a rollercoaster. A car crash left him with a neck injury which threatened to halt his professional career before it had barely started.

A long rehabilitation was followed by glimpses of his best form in 2007, but a serious wrist injury saw him lose his European Tour card.

Scotland, who is attached to Prince's Golf Club in Sandwich, has fully recovered, but is a long way from regaining his place at Europe's top table. He heads to St Andrews 163rd in the rankings on the lower Challenge Tour.

After suffering such disappointment you might expect the 27-year-old to bare deep emotional scars, but he remains admirably philosophical.

"A lot of friends have done well, which is great, but in my mind there's part of me thinking it should be me doing that," he said.

"For myself I think the way I have dealt with it is you can only play with the cards you've been dealt. It's taught me to realise that nothing's a given. I have nothing to complain about. It's great I'm back fit playing golf every day, I'm so fortunate and I have to make the most of it."

A place in the 150th Open at St Andrews, the home of golf, offers the chance to begin a new chapter. The venue holds a special resonance, with his boyhood idol Seve Ballesteros winning his second Open at the Fife links in 1984.

Scotland, who will practice at Prince's this weekend in preparation, has spent much of his time since qualifying watching clips of the Spaniard's victory on YouTube.

SECOND CHANCE: Steven Tiley

After missing the cut at Carnoustie, he is determined to make an impact second time around.

He said: "The first time I went to enjoy the experience. This time I want to enjoy it because I've played well. Like anyone I'm putting a bit of pressure on myself to perform well. I'm competitive and want to put in a good showing. With what's happened to me I have to take these opportunities."

It is also second time around for Herne Bay's Steven Tiley, who came through a play-off in local final qualifying to secure his place.

The 27-year-old, who represents Royal Cinque Ports in Deal, narrowly missed the cut in 2004 and is hoping to put the lessons learned at Royal Troon into practice next week.

He said: "I played okay but I was pretty bad at the off-course stuff. Everyone wants so much of your time and I tried to please them rather than work on my game. This year I'm going to be a bit more selfish."

TOUR STAR: Ross Fisher is a former Tillman trophy winner

Amateurs aim to join big names on trophy

SOME of the brightest talents in amateur golf will descend on Royal Cinque Ports this week to contest the Tillman Trophy.

The competition is one of the highlights on English golf's amateur calendar, with former Open champion Ernie Els and rising star Ross Fisher among its previous winners.

Royal Cinque Ports has a long relationship with the event after hosting the inaugural trophy in 1980. It will be the fifth time the Deal club has been used for the competition, which is open to all male amateur golfers.

The Tillman is the first in a series of high quality events due to be staged at Cinque Ports over the next few years. The club, a former Open host, has invested heavily since 2003 to improve the standards on the course.

Ken Hannah, club secretary, said: "We can't say we wouldn't have got them without the work, but it would have made it a lot more unlikely because there are a number of good courses in Britain which could have hosted these events. It's not exactly competitive, but when you do get awarded an event it's definitely a feather in your cap."

The competition begins on Monday, with the field playing 36 holes over the first two days. The top 44 and ties will then play a further two rounds on Wednesday to determine the winner.

Picture: ADY KERRY

LONG COURSE: Karen Stupples is in action at Oakmont

US Open ultimate test for Stupples

KAREN Stupples will be hoping to tame the epic Oakmont Country Club in the final round of the US Women's Open, which takes place today.

The Pennsylvania course is famous as one of the toughest tests in the sport.

It has been lengthened ahead of this year's tournament to include the longest par three (252 yards) and par five (602 yards) in the event's history.

Stupples had to come through qualifying in May to make the entry list for the sport's biggest event.

The golfer from Deal has shown glimpses of her best form this year, most notably in finishing fifth at the first major of the season in April.

After winning the British Open in 2004, the 37-year-old is bidding to become only the second British woman to win multiple majors, following in the footsteps of Laura Davies.

Log on to www.kentnews.co.uk to follow Stupples' progress.

Club cyclist storms to road race victory

SHAUN Duffield of Activ Cycling outsprinted a small group of riders to win the latest round in the South East Road Race League last Sunday near Tenterden.

Just as the first week of racing in the Tour de France was badly affected by crashes, the GS Invicta-organised event also witnessed a possibly race-defining moment early on.

On the first lap of the 12.4-mile circuit around Woodchurch, Tenterden and Appledore, a crash saw the field splinter into three different groups.

The leaders, not knowing how far behind their rivals were, worked together to build a lead, while the chasing groups, in the absence of any time checks, grew demoralised.

After 60 miles a 13-man group was left to contest the sprint, which Duffield won by half a bike length from Luke Ryan of Team Toachim House and Nathan Russel in third.

FINISHING LINE: Shane Duffield wins the sprint in the latest round near Tenterden Picture: DAVE HAYWARD

Pictures: ADY KERRY

As London prepares to host the 2012 Olympic Games, sports editor GLENN PEARSON was given an exclusive tour of the Olympic Park with Kent's double gold medal winner Dame Kelly Holmes to see how the venue is progressing, while picking up some pre-Games spirit

Heart of the Games

SEVEN hundred and forty-seven. That's how many days left until the start of the London 2012 Olympics, or a little over two years to you and me.

On July 27, 2012, the world's greatest sporting event comes to our shores, and quite literally for us Kentish folk, right on our doorstep. A little over an hour's drive from central Kent, or better still just 30 minutes on the high-speed rail link that goes from Ashford and through Ebbsfleet, takes you to Olympic Park in Stratford and the heart of the 2012 Games.

Ever since London won the bid to host the Games, exactly five years ago last Tuesday, I've watched progress at Stratford from afar, so an invitation to take a tour of the site with our own golden girl, Dame Kelly Holmes, this week was an opportunity too good to pass up.

Admittedly, with the Games appearing so far away I hadn't really allowed myself to think too much about what effect it will have on us as a county, or even the prospect of attending a sports event unrivalled for its history and tradition, but the experience of being inside Olympic Park, albeit incomplete, left me believing that it already has a sense of occasion.

After an hour's drive from Tonbridge in a bus with several athletes from On Camp with Kelly (an initiative that Dame Kelly set up to mentor the next generation of middle distance runners) the Olympic Stadium loomed into view.

The 80,000 capacity stadium, which will consist of 25,000 permanent and 55,000 temporary seats, is the centre-piece of the park, where the track and field events will take place during the Games.

International Olympic Committee president Jacques Rogge helped fit the 2,012th seat in a visit to the site last week and praised organisers, having witnessed how far the venue has advanced since his last visit in 2008.

Changes

With seats going in at a rate of 700 a day and the 14 light towers all now firmly in place, the stadium looks set to be ready a year before the opening ceremony takes place in east London.

Having visited the park on several occasions in the last five years, Dame Kelly has also seen it progress from a 2.5 square-metre flat piece of land to a park capable of hosting the 205 nations competing at the London Games.

"It's amazing to see the changes over such a short period of time," she said. "We're so far ahead in terms of construction, it's just great to see where we have come from to where it is now."

While the stadium is no doubt the flagship of the park, the innovative design of some of the other venues will ensure the spirit of the Games is felt across the whole park, rather than at one central stadium as it so often does in other sporting events. The 6,000-seater velodrome and the 17,500 capacity aquatics centre, which are both well on their way to completion, are hugely impressive, while the athletes' village based in Olympic Park means world-class performers are never more than a few minutes away.

AHEAD OF SCHEDULE: The Olympic Stadium will be finished a year before the opening ceremony, and the enormity of the job at hand is impossible to ignore when seeing the site up close

"You don't often get a park where all the venues are clustered together and the athletes' village being so close, too," Dame Kelly said. "That, I think, will make everybody feel really part of the Games.

"The venues are stunning, you look at them and think 'wow'. I went to Beijing and the stadium there was awesome, but the way [Olympic Park] is shaping up it's going to be as good as any of the Olympics I competed at."

The basketball venue is an extraordinary design and will be lit up on July 27 this year to mark the two-year countdown to the Games, while the temporary handball arena and International Broadcast Centre for up to 20,000 journalists covering the Olympics are near completion.

However, one interesting point that will no doubt cause some consternation once the Paralympics end in September, 2012, is the legacy it leaves behind. While 2012 will unquestionably provide a much-needed boost to the country's flagging economy, the development of an area of London that was in desperate need of improvement with facilities that can improve the lives of low income families is a legacy that shouldn't be overlooked.

Quite how that will happen is yet to be revealed, but inevitably politics will play a huge role. The park is made up of five host boroughs; Newham, Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Greenwich and Waltham Forest, which means decisions about the future use of some of the facilities aren't down to just one authority. That's something that needs to be addressed before the Games begin and Dame Kelly is confident the venues will be used and insists the legacy the Olympics will leave is just as important as the 60 days of games hosted in London.

"It is key that something good happens when the Games are over, rather than in the past when we've seen venues left unused," she said. "The good thing is the athletes' village will be used for housing and the temporary venues can be used elsewhere around the country, so they won't go to waste.

Waste

"Each of the boroughs have to communicate with the Olympic Legacy group to ensure everything is used productively and I've got no doubts it will all be used in some way."

It would certainly be a tragic waste if the park was left to become a white elephant as other venues around the world have in the past and the 'Olympic spirit' lost that is so clearly well on its way to being created.

As a county we stand to benefit from the Games being so close and with several of our own venues hosting nations in pre-Olympic training camps, it's an opportunity that must not pass us by, says Dame Kelly.

"I think Kent will host so many events that people in the county will really feel part of the Games," she said. "I'd encourage people to make the most of the opportunity, but even if you can't get to Olympic Park, there's likely to be so much going on in the county that you know you are part of something special."

Kelly: Hammers' plans must include a track

DOUBLE Olympic gold medallist Dame Kelly Holmes believes the Olympic Stadium should be used as a multi-sport venue after the 2012 Games, and not just a football ground.

Premier League side West Ham have their eyes on taking over the stadium once the Olympics are over in a move that would mirror Manchester City's acquisition of the City of Manchester Stadium after the 2002 Commonwealth Games.

While the proposal has been backed in some parts as a way of ensuring there is a legacy from the Games so the stadium isn't left unused, current and former Olympic athletes have been against the move because of the Hammers' wish to remove the track.

Now Dame Kelly, from Hildenborough, near Tonbridge, has had her say and the 40-year-old, who won two gold medals at the 2004 Olympics in Athens, gave her backing to West Ham taking over the stadium, but only if the track stays in use.

She said: "I would like to see the track remain, even if the stadium is used for football.

"There are enough big stadiums around Europe that have tracks running round them so I can't see the argument for why it has to be just for a football club.

"Why can't we make it a bit more like a sporting venue, for me it could be a track, football pitch and a host for other sports in there."

She added: "I would like to see it become a multi-sport venue, that would be ideal. There's a platform there to do concerts as well and it could be similar to something like the O2.

"I'd hate for it to be used just for football and only football fans go there – the Olympics and football are so far apart. You would only get West Ham fans going to the stadium so actually if you were to make it a multi-sport venue it would open it up to more people and those from all over the country."

MULTI-PURPOSE: Kelly Holmes, pictured signing autographs at Olympic Park, has a different view to most ex-athletes about the future of the main stadium

Silverstone thriller

Formula One fans in for 'something special'

By TOM HOWARD

IT'S been billed simply as Jenson Button versus Lewis Hamilton.

Today's British Grand Prix is poised to be a wheel-to-wheel classic as the McLaren team-mates line-up on the grid at the revamped Silverstone Circuit, with both hoping to clinch victory and increase their chances of securing another world title.

The pair, both graduates of Chatham's Buckmore Park kart circuit, are first and second in the drivers' standings with just six points the difference.

Bumper

Watching the battle unfold at close quarters will be Bromley's Gary Paffett who fully expects both drivers to race each other hard for the win in front of an expected bumper crowd.

The 29-year-old McLaren reserve driver has travelled with the Woking-based team to all the Formula One races so far this season, and has become an integral part of the team set-up during the last five years.

Paffett told Kent on Sunday: "As a driver your team-mate is who you are racing against first and there will come a time when you will be racing each other.

"Both of them will be desperate to win on home soil and I'm sure we will see them battling against each other, just like they did in Turkey.

"Having Jenson join the team has worked really well. Lewis and Jenson have pushed the team forward and that is why we are fighting hard for both championships."

Although he is enjoying his fifth year with the team, Paffett admits he wishes it was him on the grid for today's Grand Prix having watched Hamilton and Button's success from the sidelines.

He said: "I have a fantastic job at McLaren watching them develop the car, but I have to say I would love to be racing this weekend and I still hope to be racing in Formula One in the future."

Pictures MCLAREN.COM

RACE IS ON: Jenson Button (left) and Lewis Hamilton and, inset, Gary Paffett

Ex-Formula One world champion John Surtees is also eagerly awaiting the outcome of today's race.

The 76-year-old, who lives in Edenbridge, never won the British Grand Prix during his 12-year career, but is fully aware how special it is to win on home soil.

His best ever finish was second in the 1963 and 1964 races held at Aintree and Silverstone respectively.

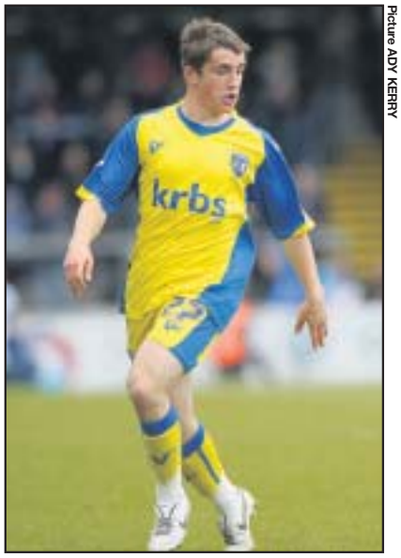
Surtees, who lifted the world championship in 1964 driving for Ferrari, has been avidly watching this year's championship unfold and believes the fans are in for something special.

Fellow ex-world champion Damon Hill stoked the build up to the race by claiming the rivalry between Button and Hamilton will boil over, but Surtees disagrees.

He told KoS: "I don't think it will boil over. I don't think the tempers of Formula One drivers of the past exist in the sport today. I haven't been surprised by the way they have coped at McLaren.

"The pair are quite different as drivers, they have a different style and approach. Lewis is the more openly aggressive and Jenson has a smooth style of driving. The maturity Jenson has gained from that championship year last season makes him a bigger threat."

The action gets under way at 1pm.



Picture ADY KERRY

GROWING CONFIDENCE: Luke Rooney

Roon eyes Gills first team berth

A LACK of confidence has never been an issue for Luke Rooney and following a successful debut campaign, the teenager is determined to avoid 'second season syndrome'.

The midfielder impressed in making 16 appearances during his first season as a professional, providing one of the moments of the season with his wonderful lob against Southampton last October.

Rooney is keen to impress in pre-season to stake a place in Andy Hessenthaler's first-team when the League Two season kicks-off next month. The 19-year-old is aware of the pitfalls that can affect players who make promising starts to their careers, and is looking to build on last season's efforts.

Strive

He said: "You do see at some clubs where youngsters come through and then fall by the wayside. I'm just trying to keep my feet on the ground and strive on because I don't want to be just sitting on the bench or playing reserves. I want to start and I feel I can be a big part of the team."

Rooney missed most of the Gills' run-in after requesting to go out on loan to Eastbourne Borough, only returning as a substitute in the final game of the season at Wycombe. While admitting relegation was a "horrible feeling", he is bullish about the club's chances in League Two.

He said: "With the players who were involved last season, I think the only time we'll really get over it is when we go up automatically or win the play-offs. That's the target.

"We've been made favourites, but so we should be because we've got the players to go straight back up and that's all we can worry about."

Cronin and Holmes set to leave Fleet

EBBSFLEET United are likely to lose three of their most important players ahead of next season as manager Liam Daish seeks to build a competitive squad within his reduced budget.

Goalkeeper Lance Cronin, who is on trial at Gillingham, and midfielder Peter Holmes were both pivotal members of the Fleet side last term, but Daish admitted the club cannot afford to keep either as they prepare for life in Blue Square Bet South.

He said: "Those players are out of our bracket this year, although we would still like to keep both.

"With Lance, I'm not saying it's dead, but he's looking to stay in that league or go above and I'm respectful of that."

Also heading for the Stonebridge Road exit door is Brazilian striker Magno Vieira, who has travelled to New Zealand for a trial with A-League side Wellington Phoenix.

Vieira and Moses Ashikodi formed a formidable strike partnership in the second-half of last season, but Daish must find replacements for both from a group of triallists, with the league season less than five weeks away.

The manager did, however, complete the signings of Dean Pooley, Derek Duncan, Aidan Sherlock and Chris Henry this week.

GOING?: Lance Cronin

Picture TIMSTUBBINGSPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

RUNNING WELL: More than 6,000 competed during the finals

Kent School Games a lesson in success

THE second Kent School Games reached its climax last weekend with organisers enthusiastic about the impact it is having on sport at all levels in the county's schools.

More than 6,000 young people competed across 38 sports during the three weeks of finals, which came to an end last Sunday.

It was the finale to months of heats and trials at local levels across the county, involving 30,000 competitors – believed to be the largest event of its kind in Europe.

While the finals days celebrate the elite end of the competition, the organisers are delighted with the effect it is having at a lower level within the schools themselves.

Chris Hespe, head of the sport, leisure and Olympics team at Kent County Council, said: "We know following the 2008 Kent School Games, intra-school competition increased dramatically, by about eight per cent. That's the benefit. What we want is for the Games to be the pinnacle of a structure of school sports where everybody has a chance to take part in a range of sporting activities."

Planning has already begun on the third Kent School Games, which will finish just before the London Olympics. The success has caught the attention on a national scale and it is hoped by 2012 events based on the Kent model will be rolled out across every county in England, with plans eventually for a Schools Olympics.

SEE INSIDE

McLaren reserve driver Gary Paffett gives Kent on Sunday an insight into what can be expected from today's British Grand Prix as team-mates Jenson Button and Lewis Hamilton go head–to-head for a win on home soil. **PAGE 95**

We get exclusive access to Olympic Park as progress for the London 2012 Games gathers pace. Dame Kelly Holmes talks us through the changes at the venue and how Kent can profit from the Olympic spirit. **PAGE 94**

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KEY INJURY

By **GLENN PEARSON**

STRUGGLING Kent will be without influential skipper Rob Key and fast bowler Amjad Khan for up to four weeks after the pair were forced out of last week's crushing innings defeat at Hampshire.

The county's injury-plagued season went from bad to worse with the news Key will be out for up to a month after breaking a finger trying to fend off a Dominic Cork delivery at the Rose Bowl, while Khan limped off on the morning of the second day with a hamstring strain.

The loss of two senior players, coupled with the innings and 111-run defeat inside three days which leaves Kent second bottom in Division One of the LV= County Championship, capped off a miserable week for the club whose hopes of qualification to the knockout stage of this year's t20 are hanging by a thread.

Treatment

Having seen Robbie Joseph make a return for his first championship game in more than a year and winter signing Dewald Nel back bowling after a back injury, the treatment table at St Lawrence was finally empty before the trip to Southampton.

That's no longer the case now as the county prepare to see out the remainder of t20 and a crucial period in the championship without their captain and main strike bowler.

South African Martin van Jaarsveld will lead the side in Key's absence, while his place in the batting line-up is likely to go to one of the club's younger players as options are severely limited. Farbrace, typically pragmatic about the latest hand he has been dealt as head coach, admits losing Key and Khan was symptomatic of the county's fortunes this summer.

"It's tough to lose your cutting edge bowler and your main batsman in the space of two days and it's something we could do without, but it just about sums our luck up at the moment," he said. "It's pretty hard to take as we've got a small staff and it's getting smaller by the day. But now is not the time to be moaning and groaning about it, we haven't been playing well so here's an opportunity for some of the young blokes.

"Rob is three to four weeks out and that's a blow because he's our leader both on and off the field. We need all the runs we can get at the moment with our lack of bowling resources, so the batsmen have got to score the runs."

If losing the skipper was a bitter pill to swallow, then Khan's second hamstring strain of the summer, this time in the other leg, will have the club's management pulling their hair out.

Both Khan and Joseph have been partnered together for just two days in the space of an entire two domestic seasons and with the bowling department lean in terms of numbers at the best of times, his absence is going to put a further strain on the remaining seam attack.

Farbrace ruled out exploring the loan market to add to his resources as Kent try to prevent an immediate return to Division Two of the championship. Despite a distinct lack of options, he is confident the side will stay up.

"If we get everyone fit we still have a good enough team to finish mid-table in the championship, but with every game that goes by it gets harder and harder," he said. "We can't lie down and die, if we've got players with guts and heart then they need to stand up. If we haven't, then that's an indication of what we've got to come for the next couple of years."

Blow for struggling Kent side as broken finger puts skipper out of the picture for up to a month

Picture: ADY KERRY

INJURY HIT: Coach Paul Farbrace (left) could have done without losing skipper Rob Key (right) and bowler Amjad Khan, as Kent look to fight their way out of a poor run of form

Picture: ADY KERRY

Gills boss plans ahead for Jackson exit

ANDY Hessenthaler is looking for new transfer targets to approach in the event Simeon Jackson is sold by Gillingham this summer, ***writes David Pritchard.***

The club have received several bids during the close season for the Canada international, whose contract expires in 12 months' time. Although none have so far met the club's valuation, the chances of a move appear to be strengthening as the start of the season approaches.

Jackson trained with the rest of the squad this week, but was made unavailable for interviews at the club's pre-season press day on Thursday. Hessenthaler's plans for the season continue to include the striker, but the Gills boss admitted the situation had prompted him to consider other options.

He said: "If we lose Simeon there's a plan in your mind, that's why we're trying to identify other forwards because we need a contingency plan. I'm hoping that Simeon doesn't go from a selfish point because I want him to stay, but I'm also realistic and know that it could happen."

Hessenthaler's frustration has been compounded by missing out on two targets this week. The club had reached advanced talks with defender Darren Dennehy and striker Barry Corr, only to lose out to Barnet and Southend United respectively.

The Gills boss is disappointed by the lack of activity, but is content to wait for the right players.

He said: "I'm frustrated because I think everybody would like to see a few new faces in, but we're still trying to do business and I do believe come August 7 we'll have two or three new players."

Aldershot striker Marvin Morgan has emerged as a target, while former Ebbsfleet United goalkeeper Lance Cronin and veteran centre-back Darren Powell have trained with the squad this week.

BACK TO WORK: Gills in training